

Inside ...

Board Report	Page 2
Chapter Report	Page 2
Alumni Updates	Page 3-4
Obits	Page 4



THE GLAZEBROOK GAZETTE

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www.2stayconnected.com/ato-gt

Alumni Profile

Q+A with Ted Petrides '80

Brother Recalls Unforgettable Years in ATO

We recently caught up with Ted H. Petrides II '80, who was happy to share a few stories from his days at Georgia Tech as a member of ATO. From Hawaiian parties to loud punk rock, Ted's time at Tech was filled with fun and memorable events.

Why did you join Alpha Tau Omega?

I knew a few of the brothers who were ATOs, and they took me under their wing during rush. I liked the diversity of people who comprised the fraternity, and that made my decision.

Tell us about your favorite memory of the fraternity.

There are so many. Hawaiian parties were always something to look forward to, as were the bands and the atmosphere that took your mind off of school for a weekend. The trips to Florida with the fraternity over spring breaks were always ... let me say crazy and eventful. The lasting friendships I have made with these successful brothers are the most enduring and still my favorite memories.

What kind of influence has the fraternity had on your life since graduation?

The fraternity was kind of like life. We had a lot of different personalities, coming from many families with diverse demographics. The experience taught me how to live, work and communicate with all these different people. I matured so much during my first year at Georgia Tech that even I realized what an effect it had had upon me. I learned about acquaintances and friends and the difference between the two. I will never forget my days in the fraternity. I want my son to experience the same when he goes to college.

With whom do you stay in contact?

I stay in contact with **Tom Cobb '80**, **Vernon O'Neal '79**, **Bruce Kopkin '79** and, until recently, **Steve Bullard '79**, but he lives in Plymouth, Minn. I see **Jimmy Carlos '75** from time to time.

Tell us about your family.

My wife, Betty, and I have been married for 10 years. I have an 18-year-old

son, Joey, from a previous marriage. He is attending Clemson University this year.

What other activities or organizations were you involved with during college?

I played baseball for Georgia Tech my first year, but I realized quickly that I did not have a career in the sport so I quit and concentrated on school. School and ATO were my life during college. I worked part-time the entire way through school, so there was not much time for other activities.

What was your nickname?

Teddy.

Did you live in the house? Who were your roommates? Tell us about a memorable time with them.

I lived in the house my entire stay at Georgia Tech. I roomed with **Steve Bullard '79** for a quarter, and he loved to rock out with punk rock music every afternoon. I mean, this music was blasting, and he would lie on his bed and just rock back and forth for an hour or more. I got used to doing the same thing most afternoons. It was like taking a nap ... almost. I also lived with **Robert Binion '81**, **Mark Demetree '78** and others I cannot recall.

What do you do for a living?

I was a salesman for several trucking companies for 23 years, and last year I resigned to become a Realtor. I now work with Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage. I have invested in property for more than 20 years and thought that my knowledge and interest in this industry would serve me better than did my previous career. I wish I had made this change 10 years ago, as I am having fun while working.

What affiliations do you currently have?

I am affiliated with the National Association of Realtors and the Georgia Association of Realtors.



(Continued on Page 2)



The Glazebrook Gazette is published for the alumni and friends of the Georgia Beta Iota Chapter of Alpha Tau Omega Fraternity at The Georgia Institute of Technology. Address changes, news items, photographs and contributions may be sent in the enclosed envelope; mailed to Alpha Tau Omega Fraternity, Alumni Relations Office, P.O. Box 161188, Atlanta, GA 30321-1188; or sent via our Web site at www.2stayconnected.com/ato-gt.

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Alumni Profile



(Continued from Page 1)

What hobbies do you enjoy?

I love the outdoors and going hunting - I hunt turkey, deer, duck, crow (yes, that's right), dove and hog. I still play softball and I love to snorkel.

What are your goals for the next few years?

I plan to buy and sell real estate for the next seven years and then retire to manage the rental properties I have accumulated. And I'd like to help others who are less fortunate to buy a home. I truly enjoy helping others achieve their dreams of home ownership.

This Q&A interview is part of an ongoing series designed to help us get to know our brothers better. If you know a brother you think would make a good profile candidate, please send his name and graduation year, along with your name and graduation year, to our alumni relations service at news@2stayconnected.com. Make sure to mention it is for Alpha Tau Omega at the Georgia Institute of Technology. ■

Board of Trustees

You Make It Happen!

A lot of good things have been happening at Beta Iota that I am excited to tell you about. The chapter continues to improve itself in grades, rush and quality of brotherhood. This is in large part due to mature, inspired leadership in the officer ranks. Hats off to the young men!

The actives are very serious about coming up with ways to stay in touch with the alumni group. You may have noticed these efforts during Homecoming. The Board of Trustees is working with them on this, and we need everyone's help to make this initiative a success both now and in the future.

The Board is in the process of revitalizing itself; it's adding new members and seeking more. **Chad Vickery '97**, **Eric Smith '99** and **Nate Gallant '99** have stepped forward to help. Chad is relieving **Jamie Hamilton '93** as chapter advisor, and we are looking forward to his help in this vital area. We thank Jamie for a job well done. Jamie will focus on alumni involvement and helping me raise funds for debt retirement and the ongoing educational activities of the Clary and Noonan funds at the ATO Foundation.

While we are on the subject of the ATO Foundation, did you know that Beta Iota has the second-largest scholastic endowment (behind only ATO at Kansas State University) of any chapter in the country? I am trying to build these funds to really make a difference in the lives of these young men. God knows, ATO has done wonderful things for me.

If you have any thoughts of doing something for ATO, large or small, in a tax-deductible way, the ATO Foundation is the ticket. I am currently its national treasurer and can assure you that any gift will be used wisely for its intended purpose. For instance, Jane and I recently endowed a fund for overseas study.

I'm still looking for financial help for our renovation; we have a ways to go. If you have the capacity to help in any way, please give me a call at 770-403-8417. I'd love to talk to you.

Fraternally,

John E. Robertson '67 ■

Chapter Report

By Courtney Baker

Actives and Alumni Build Strong Chapter

Beta Iota is well into the fall semester here at Georgia Tech, and the chapter continues to make progress. Homecoming went very well this year with a win over North Carolina State University and the chapter placing seventh overall during the week's activities. The brothers have been remaining busy with classes, community service projects, intramurals and, of course, partying when free time is available. The annual Hawaiian Party was once again a success and remains one of the Greek system's biggest parties.

Internal improvements have also been part of Beta Iota's agenda since the spring. With the generous donations from alumni, the house was able to renovate the front foyer and buy supplies for the new study rooms. The relationship with the Board of Trustees continues to grow as we welcome three new members. Thank you to **Eric Smith '99**, **Chad Vickery '97** and **Nathan Gallant '99** who have all signed on to help the chapter in encouraging more alumni involvement as well as fostering networking opportunities between the chapter and alumni.

On behalf of the chapter, I would like to thank everyone who has shown interest in helping out the chapter with these goals. Anyone else interested in helping out the chapter, either with your time or financial contributions, please feel free to contact me at gt0806b@mail.gatech.edu. I will gladly forward your message appropriately. Any amount of help or input would be appreciated. ■

Alumni UpDates

James H. Pitman '46
(2 Valencia Rd., Lake City, FL 32055) I am still enjoying retirement and do some freshwater and saltwater fishing. I spend a lot of time transporting my six grandchildren and supporting their activities.

Leonard E. Murray '48
(6267 Lausanne Dr. N., Mobile, AL 36608-4114) I graduated from the University of Georgia in 1950 as an ATO Alpha Beta.

James W. Gray '50
(157 Lake Otis Rd., Winter Haven, FL 33884) Though both of our sons are Tech graduates, our four grandchildren all went to different colleges here in Florida. Betty Jo and I celebrated our 53rd wedding anniversary in June. I am retired, but I still spend about 40 hours a week at the office. During fall and winter I spend many long weekends at hunting camp at New Smyrna, and during summer vacation and on long weekends I spend time at our beach house at Anna Maria. I had a great time visiting with '45-'55 ATOs in May at our reunion in Atlanta.

Richard E. Collett '58
(212 Butternut Cir., Conway, SC 29526; rcollett@sc.rr.com) I decided it was time to fully retire, so I shut down Triad Engineering to spend more time on the golf course, boating on Lake Keowee (my second home) and participating in SCORE-Grand Strand Chapter 381. I am still scuba diving, snow skiing and traveling around the globe, and I do not have enough time for my six grandchildren. Life at the beach is great! Myrtle Beach, S.C., is a great place to wind down. You can be 65 and still feel 55.

Kenneth M. Carter '59
(105 Kearsse Ct., Spartanburg, SC 29307-3103; kencarter@aol.com) We are enjoying retirement and doing some traveling in our motor home.

Douglas A. Hartman '60
(3303 Briarwood Blvd., Lancaster, PA 17601-1263) I retired from Hershey Foods Corp. on Jan. 1, 2003, after 35 years of service.

John K. Morrow '62
(4435 Southwinds Dr., Destin, FL 32550; johnmorrowdestin@aol.com) After retiring from Lockheed Martin in February 2000, Sally and I bought two homes, one on the beach in Destin and the

other in the mountains of Big Canoe, Ga. At our first social event at the Destin golf club, I spotted brother **Jake "The Snake" Jacobs '59** and his wife, Susie. He had retired to Destin a few years earlier from Delta Airlines. I had not seen him in more than 20 years and had no idea he was here. We have renewed a good friendship and established the Destin Chapter of the R.O.M.E.O.S. – Retired Old Men Eating Out. Snake still likes to party – don't we all? When eating at the Big Canoe Club restaurant, I spotted **Nicky Brown '60** and his wife, Jenelle. Nicky was my pledge master and truly one of the good guys. He and Jenelle plan to sell their house in Marietta and build in Big Canoe. I had not seen him in more than 20 years with the exception of a few football games at the ATO house. It has been wonderful to renew our friendship. The three of us in fall 2001 gave a party at Nicky's house in Marietta, Ga., for brothers from the late '50s and early '60s. It was terrific for all who attended. We had a great turnout and plan to do it again. Soon after I moved to Destin, Jake and I drove to Charlotte, N.C., and hooked up with **Bill Wilson '64**, **Charles Whaley '61** and **Dick Johnston '62** to hear **Orson Swindle '59** talk to the Georgia Tech Alumni Club about his Vietnam experiences. Swindle does this quite often. It was a great meeting and yet another opportunity to renew old friendships with brothers. Swindle does a wonderful

job of reminding us all just how precious our freedoms are. For those of you who do not know, Swindle was a POW for seven years.

Melton W. Hood '72
(1707 Ashebark Ln., Marietta, GA 30068; melton.w.hood@saint-gobain.com) I have recently left Tapco International to become the southeastern regional sales manager for Certaineed's Siding Products Group.

John B. Lovell '72
(460 River Bend Rd., Richmond Hill, GA 31324; jblovrlook@aol.com) We've retired (sort of) from big city life in Atlanta to Richmond Hill, south of Savannah, Ga., on the Ogeechee River. Our oldest daughter, Gracie, is in graduate school at Ole Miss. Our son, John, is in the Army Rangers and is still in Iraq. Our youngest daughter, Missy, just finished her freshman year at Ole Miss. I'm looking forward to a father-son motorcycle trip out west with my son when he gets some extended leave. He's seen a lot in his young life – Afghanistan last year and Iraq this year. I've done a lousy job keeping in touch. I'll do better in the future. Best to all – our doors are always open.

Donavon G. West '72
(430 Link Rd., Alpharetta, GA 30202; donavong@earthlink.net) My daughter, Ashley, is graduating in May from the University of Wyoming, and my son, Zach, is immensely enjoying his freshman year at

(Continued on Page 4)

Gordon J. Price '71

(101 Terrane Ridge, Peachtree City, GA 30269; gprice49@bellsouth.net) Margie and I celebrated 20 years of marital bliss this year. We have no children together, but, as "past lives" would have it, we have hers, mine, someone else's (an adopted son) and a host of grandkids. Margie is a former flight attendant, but I'm still a long way from retirement. We worship and serve our Lord at the local Methodist church, where I play and sing in the Praise Band, and we have been greatly blessed both spiritually and materially. I manage the Georgia division of a small distribution company and have a great team of employees. I still like to goof around and enjoy an occasional beverage. If you are ever in Peachtree City, look us up and we'll take a golf cart ride. As you can see from the photo, I have been known to impersonate a certain celebrity.



Gordon J. Price '71 as Willie?

Alumni UpDates

Auburn. Zach has already asked for my Auburn-Georgia Tech football tickets, as he feels that Auburn is going to kick our rear. My wife, Gayle, is fine and says hello to all my fraternity brothers from those long ago days.

Walter C. Gilbert '82

(220 Highland Ave., Athens, GA 30606-4312; cgilbert@thorntonpaper.com) I was able to buy Thornton Brothers from my father-in-law in April 2003 after working there as general manager for almost eight years. My wife, Rosalind, loves living in her hometown of Athens. She leads a small community Bible study group and enjoys ALTA and USTA tennis. Our daughter, Anne Lanier, is 10 and in the fourth grade at Athens Academy. In addition to running Thornton Brothers, I am currently on the board of Afflink (a buying/ marketing group for our industry) and on the board of the Athens Country Club. I hope to see the renovated stadium this fall.

Anthony D. Smart '86

(10110 Wyndham Court, Suwanee, GA 30024; tsmartacus@adelphia.net) I am currently in my sixth year at PeopleSoft, a software company, as a manager in business development. I joined PeopleSoft after six years in consulting at Accenture. My wife, Susie, a University of Alabama graduate, and I have two kids, Michael, almost 6, and Evan, who just turned 3. We live in the Laurel Springs golf community in Suwanee. Give me a call and we can hit the links.

James T. Ruhl '88

(951 Harmony Road, Suite 106, Eatonton, GA 31024; jimruhl@plantationcable.net) I began a design/build construction company in 1999 at Lake Oconee. I have two children, Ethan and Haley, and have been married to Paige Cosby Ruhl since March 1990.

Gregory A. Golden '93

(809 Kings Croft, Cherry Hill, NJ 08034;

greggolden@yahoo.com) I married Loren Fossie on June 14, 2003. Loren is from Cherry Hill, N.J.

In Memory

We regret to inform you of the deaths of

Julian W. Welch '32

Mac H. Burroughs '39

Frank J. Winn '40

Joseph S. Carruthers Jr. '43

David R. Johnson '45

William H. Gleason '48

Royal A. VanEyck '51

John T. Parkerson Jr. '52

Harold L. Prescott Jr. '54

Edwin Wattenbarger '59

Calvin E. James '60

Alpha Tau Omega mourns their passing and extends condolences to their families and friends.

