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## Board of Trustees Report By Chad Vickery '97, Chairman

THE GLAZEBROOK GAZETTE BI ATΩ at Georgia Tech \* Atlanta, Ga. \* August 2004 www.atobetaiota.com

### ATΩ Congress, Atlanta Georgia JUIY 28-31, 2004 By John Robertson '66

### Beta lota Does Us All Proud

We wish all of you could have been at the  $AT\Omega$ Congress at the Hyatt in Buckhead. You would have been proud of what you saw and heard, and more proud of Beta Iota:

 Gene Clary '29 received his 75-year service award at the awards banquet Saturday night. ATΩ National president Miles McCall presented a beautifully framed Diamond Circle Certificate to him in front of over 400 ATΩs from all over the country. Gene's family was on hand for the occasion as was the board of trustees. Gene also received a Life Loyal Tau Award. We are so proud of Brother Clary for his years of service to ATΩ and for his generous support of the chapter.

 Three Georgia Tech ATΩs were featured on Friday's VIP Panel Discussion on Leadership sponsored by the ATΩ Foundation: Bert Thornton '68, W.T. Smith '69 and Orson Swindle '59. Bert, Tom and Orson did a great



**Eugene Clary '29** receives his Diamond Circle Certificate for 75 years of service, on July 31, 2004, in Atlanta. Pictured (L-R): Jib Black (chairman, AT $\Omega$  Foundation), Mr. Clary, Steve Siders (CEO, AT $\Omega$  Foundation), Dr. Miles McCall (National President, AT $\Omega$ ) and Wynn Smiley (CEO, AT $\Omega$  National).

job discussing leadership principles as well as the importance of leading with integrity in today's environment. The undergraduates got a lot out of the discussion, as did everyone else in the room. Thanks go to the whole group (including Ben Johnson, Emory AT $\Omega$ ) for a job well done!

• Finally, the chapter received an award for having a great recruiting year and for the innovative rush techniques they used last year. Hats off to the Beta Iota!

Those of us who attended the Congress were impressed by several things:

- The high quality of the young men attending from all over the country.
- The professionalism and dedication of the National staff.
- The high level of importance placed on striving for excellence in scholarship, leadership, citizenship and brotherhood.

You should have been there!

# Striving to Make the $AT\Omega$ Experience Meaningful to All

So far, this has been a productive year for the board of trustees. We have been meeting monthly to discuss the state of the chapter, the upcoming rush, alumni events and alumni communication.

The chapter is in good order thanks to the current officers. Plans for this fall's rush are being finalized, and the members of the board of trustees plan to attend a couple of nights of rush. The board is also working with the chapter to organize a new tradition of pledge-class reunions starting this fall.

In addition to all the standard business, the board members are collectively striving to help make the AT $\Omega$  experience meaningful for all undergraduate brothers and alumni alike. The board is comprised of only a few alumni, but the best way to make a fraternity successful is through the dedication, leadership and support of all the alumni.

As mentioned in a previous *Glazebrook Gazette*, the board is currently looking for alumni to serve as pledge-class liaisons to help create this connection not only with undergraduate brothers but with brothers from a wide span of decades. A pledge-class liaison will simply be a contact point for the board of trustees to get in touch with brothers from a particular pledge class or period.

Our goal is to have at least one member from every pledge-class year become involved in helping to contact his contemporary brothers for participation in alumni/chapter events, yearly reunions, monthly socials or career seminars for undergraduates.

A letter will be sent to some of you in the coming weeks asking for you to either be a liaison or recommend someone to serve as one. Please give some thought to this invitation, and consider the benefits that being a pledge-class liaison will bring to our fraternity.

# State of the **Chapter** By Vladik Rikter, Beta lota President

## Anticipating an Excellent and Successful Fall Semester

We are wrapping up a great summer semester here at Beta Iota! Football games and fall classes are waiting for us around the corner, but first let me recap some of the events of the last few months.

With every spring comes a time of recuperating from fall and a week of excitement with Greek Week. The chapter participated in many, if not all, events throughout the week and fared pretty well overall, finishing 10th out of 31 fraternities participating.

Our grades did not falter from fall, and we kept our heads above water by just barely missing the allmen's average. The board of trustees put together a golf tournament in spring at a local golf course, and approximately 20 alumni from the last 10 graduating years attended. We hope to further improve upon this tournament in the future and make it a yearly AT $\Omega$ tradition.

The summer has been spent mostly working on recruitment and preparing the house for fall and the AT $\Omega$  Congress. The AT $\Omega$  Congress was at the Grand Hyatt in Buckhead the last weekend of July. There were more than 470 AT $\Omega$ s from around the country, including seven from Beta Iota. The four days encompassed many educational

events for building a better chapter, a Braves game and a VIP leadership panel headed by three Beta Iota men (Bert Thornton '68, W.T. Smith '69 and Orson Swindle '59) whose input and attendance at the event was regarded by many as the most effective session all weekend.

Before the final banquet, Beta Iota was given a 2004 Recruitment Advantage Excellence Award for our diligent work in improving recruitment numbers over the course of the year.

Finally, the banquet could not have been complete without Eugene Clary '29 receiving the Diamond Circle Award for his persistent dedication to Beta Iota, Alpha Tau Omega and Georgia Tech for 75 years! This award was personally given to him by the outgoing National president, Dr. Miles McCall.

As the fall semester prepares to kick into full gear, I look forward to seeing many of you at football games, whether it is for a minute to stop by or for tailgating at the house. We strived harder this year than in years before to make the house the central point of all football games so that alumni can enjoy themselves as they did when they were here.

Thank you for all your involvement in Beta Iota.

# **Final Four** A Road Trip To Remember...

ATΩ Pledge-Class Reunions!

**Oct. 16** 

<u>Saturday</u>

A new AT $\Omega$  tradition will be taking place this fall. The Annual Pledge-Class Reunions are currently being planned for the 10th (1994), 25th (1979) and 50th (1954) initiation-year anniversaries. The anniversaries are to honor and celebrate the year of initiation of each pledge class, which is typically the year following the pledge year.

The reunions are to be held on **Saturday**, **October 16**, **2004**, during the Georgia Tech homecoming football game weekend. A reunion party will be hosted at the AT $\Omega$  house after the game to honor those who attend. Official AT $\Omega$ certificates for the Silver 25th and Gold 50th anniversaries will be presented.

The board of trustees has proposed that future reunions could include tickets for the football game, special rate accommodations at the new Georgia Tech Conference Center, a campus tour and a golf tournament. The board and the brothers hope to establish and continue this tradition for the coming years.

Please mark your calendar for this event. Contact all of your pledge brothers and make a weekend of it! More information will be mailed to you in the coming weeks about the times and football ticket information. We look forward to seeing you there! On campus this past spring, the Georgia Tech men's basketball team making the Final Four was the big news, and many students were willing to do whatever it took to get to San Antonio and support the team. Several brothers of Alpha Tau Omega were among those fans determined to find a way to get to Texas for Tech's first Final Four appearance since 1990. "When [people] asked me how we were going to do it, I said, 'That's all details, we'll figure that out on down the road.' And it all worked out in the end," Joey Spanjers said.

Luckily for them, everything did work out. A girlfriend of one of the brothers called into Atlanta's Q100 radio station and won a Final Four road trip, and graciously gave the trip to her boyfriend. Among other things, the prize included two RVs with drivers from Bleakley RV, free drinks from Coke, unlimited stops for free food at any Waffle House along the way and hotel rooms in San Antonio. Spanjers said they had "already planned on getting an RV, so … it made it really easy because we already had a group ready to go, and nobody had plane flights or anything."

Before they left for Texas, Q100's "The Bert Show" came to campus and did a live broadcast from the front yard of the AT $\Omega$  house for the send-off. People from the community brought food, and the Tech bookstore donated flags and magnets for the RVs as well as other Tech gear.

Considering that they were going on a road trip, the students were quite comfortable. There were only seven or eight on each RV, which left plenty of room to walk around. They had everything they could possibly need on board and only had to stop occasionally for gas.

The brothers traveled first class on the radio station and having them along turned out to be fun, not a nuisance. The guys did call-ins throughout the trip, and the station actually broadcast some of the travelers' adventures out in San Antonio. Despite the 12 to 14 hours of

# Alumni **UpDates**

Editor's Note: For more alumni updates and photos, please visit www.ATOBeta lota.com.

#### John H. Tucker '49

(5601 Promontory Pointe Rd., Midlothian, VA 23112-2023; wa4eae@juno.com) Just returned from a wonderful vacation in Scandinavia with my wife. We've been married almost three years now — first wife died in 1998 after 42 years. Looking forward to going to my 60th high school reunion in Tampa, Florida, in August — and to seeing Brother Calvin Johnson '47 who is also a member of that class and my next-door neighbor in Tampa while we were in high school. Saddened to hear that brother Doyle Johnson '47 recently passed.

#### Albert R. Fowlkes '51

(1615 Laura Ln., Dyersburg, TN 38024; alfo@cableone.net) I am now retired after working for Dyersburg Fabrics for 47 years. Went to Navy OCS after graduation around Christmas of 1954. Served 40 months in Naval Aviation, flying in four-engined Super Constellations and stationed in Hawaii, Guam, Japan, Okinawa and the Philippines. Married a hometown girl in 1961. Now have three children (two in Memphis and one in Nashville) and eight grandchildren. Just returned from Highlands, North Carolina, visiting former AT $\Omega$ roommate Monty Thorne '54 and his wife. My health is very good even though I had bypass surgery in 1997.

#### Edward W. Davis '57

(445 Ivy Farm Dr., Charlottesville, VA 22901; ewd@virginia.edu) I teach MBA and executive education students at the Darden Graduate School of Business at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville, where I have been a member of the faculty since 1978. I am married to the former Patricia Forrest of Richmond, Virginia (Agnes Scott '59), who teaches adult piano students and performs locally. If you are in the area visiting Monticello or other scenic spots, we invite you to call us at (434) 296-3382.

driving per day, the time passed quickly on the RV because the students had fun while the drivers did all the work.

Between games, they just parked in the lot right next to the Alamodome and camped out there. "News crews came by and interviewed us. The 'Ramblin' Wreck' came out there. We were basically the unofficial 'official' tailgate party for Georgia Tech fans," Spanjers said.

They also had several brushes with fame while in San Antonio. First, the group was paid a visit from Bill Walton, the well-known basketball player



Front row (L-R): Morgan Mullis, Phil from Q100, Mark Tuggle from John Bleakley Motor Homes (driver), Josh Mathis, Andy Rankin, Adam Weintraub. Back row (L-R): Ben Callner, Joey Spanjers, Jeff Gardner, Stephanie Hom (2003 ATΩ sweetheart), Arthur Moretti, John Kull

and announcer. In addition, **Ben Callner**, one of the guys on the trip, submitted a video to the film festival of "The Best Damn Sports Show" in a national filmmaking competition. Callner's video made it into the semifinals, and John Salley, one of the hosts of the show and a Tech alumnus, had some nice things to say about it when it aired. Salley was at the game, and he talked to Spanjers and Callner, praising the video in person.

Unfortunately, Tech did not win that last game of their fantastic season. Regardless of the outcome, the students who went on the road trip still had a great time. "Anybody who gets an opportunity to go to the Final Four should go," Spanjers said. "It's an amazing event."

#### J. Wayne Andrews '61

(7510 Pinehurst Dr., Cincinnati, OH 45244; WayneA7@aol.com) I was married while a senior to Havalyn Hicks Andrews. From Georgia Tech we went into the U.S. Navy and through flight training with service in Hawaii and then with Fighter Squadron 53 making two cruises to Vietnam, in 1966 and 1967, including 100 combat missions in Vietnam in the F8 Crusader. Following six years in the Navy, I joined G.E. in Cincinnati, Ohio, working in aircraft engines in service and sales/marketing jobs. My last and most rewarding job with G.E. was leading the sales/marketing aircraft engines team in the Northern Pacific while stationed in Tokyo in the early 1990s. After taking an early retirement from G.E. and a brief stint selling pilot training for Flight-Safety Boeing, I retired in January 1998 in Cincinnati. Along this path, we were blessed with three daughters, all of whom are married now and have families of their own. My "retirement job" is with Miami Valley Christian Academy (MVCA) here in Cincinnati. We helped start this school in 1996 with 11 students, one of whom was a granddaughter of ours. We have been on the board of trustees since then, and I have been president of the board for the past three years. It is the "retirement" ministry we feel the Lord led us to undertake. We expect to have three grandchildren there this fall.

#### John B. Anders '63

(109 W. Woodland Rd., Yorktown, VA 23692; marben10@earthlink.net) I have not been in touch with anyone from AT $\Omega$ in over 40 years, so I decided to let any who remember me know that I am still alive and well. I retired in 2002 from NASA (my first and only job) with 41 years of service (fun). I did fundamental research in

(Continued on Page 4)

## Join Us: Atlanta Alumni Club

The board of trustees has begun coordinating alumni socials at local establishments throughout the year. These gatherings are casual in nature and provide in-town alumni an opportunity to socialize with other AT $\Omega$ s from Tech. Please contact **Nate Gallant '99** (gt5276a@prism.gatech. edu, 404-943-1283) or **Eric Smith '99** (ericsmith1976@hotmail.com, 678-455-8437) to be added to the distribution list.



aerodynamics ranging from hypersonics to subsonic aircraft. I finished my career studying natural flight (birds and insects) to see if we could use some of the techniques for UAVs. Cheers to all.

#### John A. Howton '72

(234 Broadway St., St. Simons Island, GA 31522; jrhowton@aol.com) I've just celebrated my third anniversary as owner of Blackwater Grill on St. Simons Island and have enjoyed the visits of many fraternity brothers. Keep on coming. As always, your first beer is on me!

#### John B. Lovell '72

(460 River Bend Rd., Richmond Hill, GA 31324; jblovrlook@aol.com) My oldest daughter, Gracie, finished graduate school and is now a speech pathologist at University Hospital in Jackson, Mississippi. My son, John, is overseas again. This is his fifth combat tour with the 75th Army Ranger Regiment. Nancy and I are really looking forward to getting him back home. Missy, our youngest, is a rising junior at Ol' Miss. She spent the summer at home with us helping take care of her mother. Nancy, my wife, has a very rare form of cancer. She has such a spirit that while dealing with her illness she has been an incredible inspiration for me and so many others. She wasn't given much of a chance at first, but she has responded so well to the chemo, surgery and radiation that we're getting pretty hopeful. We've learned to take

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things a day at a time. I spend most of my time looking after Nancy. After we get through this, I'd like to help service people getting out of the military to find the right civilian jobs. We're planning a nonprofit Web site clearinghouse for their bios and company job postings, along with mentoring and counseling. I've met so many of these special people who pay for our freedom. They're squared away, patriotic, dedicated and deserving of our respect and consideration. We're still in Richmond Hill. Best to all.

#### Jim Butterworth '84

(P.O. Box 604, Minturn, CO 81645-0604; jim@butterworth.net) In 2003 I created a nonprofit company, Incite Productions, to produce documentaries that foster positive social change. We are just finishing our first project, Seoul Train, on the plight of the 250,000 North Korean refugees living underground in China and the complex geopolitics of the crisis.

#### Robert J. Gurley '86

(P.O. Box 213, Ringgold, GA 30736; gurleyhaus23@aol.com) I currently own and operate an import and wholesale business (antique reproductions) — Rhyne & Son, Inc. My wife, Jovanna, and I have a daughter Sydney, 11, son Will, 7, and daughter Greyson, 5. Haven't seen any brothers in several years. We live on my wife's family farm — much fresh air to breathe.

#### James E. Cusick '87

(240 Amesdale Ct., Alpharetta, GA 30022-6483; jecusick@bellsouth.net) I recently joined Azul Systems as director of Eastern regional sales. My wife, Jenifer, and I stay involved at Wesleyan School and Mt. Pisgah United Methodist Church, where we keep up with several  $AT\Omega s$  and Georgia Tech alumni. I am happy to report that my former  $AT\Omega$  (room 17) roommate Greg Childers '86 and his family moved back to the Atlanta area this summer, and they will be living in Peachtree City. Welcome back from Boston, Greg!

#### **Bernard J. Froidcoeur '94**

(3284 Nomie Way, West Linn, OR 97068; bfroidcoeur01@yahoo.com) I recently moved to the Portland area to work for a small software company called Corrigo that specializes in mobile service management. Daughter, Isabella, turned 1 in April. I keep in touch with Graham Stroman, J.P. Vincent '93, Greg Golden '93, Ty Allen '97, Andrew Simmons '94, Kevin Carroll '94 and Ben Hartman '94.

#### Blake A. Hewitt '01

(2513 Craig Rd., Columbia, SC 29204; blake\_hewitt@hotmail.com) Starting my last year of law school at the University of South Carolina.

#### In Memory

**Doyle R. Johnson '47** died at his home in Toone, Tennessee, on February 26, 2004, after a long struggle with cancer. He leaves his loving wife Brenda, three children, five grandchildren, and brother **Calvin Johnson** (also a Beta lota). Doyle had a long and successful career with Procter and Gamble, including overseas assignments in the Philippines and Rome, Italy. While at Georgia Tech, he served as editor of the "Engineer." In addition to AT $\Omega$ , which he served as WKE, he was a member of the ANAK Society, Tau Beta Pi and Omicron Delta Kappa.

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