

## 2008 CHAPTER OFFICERS

President  
**Abhi Sharma**

Vice President  
**David Shida**

Treasurer  
**Carl Wilson**

House Manager  
**Jari Becker**

Kitchen Manager  
**Geoff Roe**

Social Chairman  
**Conrad Grajczak**

Rush Chairman  
**Scott Johnson**

Pledge Trainer  
**Dave Gambone**

Secretary  
**Kabir Barday**

## NEW MEMBERS

### Fall 2007

Bryant Barber  
Elias Chininis  
Warren Dantzler  
Daniel Davis  
James Eick  
George Evagoras  
Dainius Gaska  
Zachary Gassman  
Matthew Gilstrap  
Roman Gorokhov  
Brian Kull  
John Lindsey  
James Lofgren  
Thomas Martin  
Michael Miles  
Nicholas Mills  
Johnathan Trundt

### Spring 2008

Wooseok Kim  
Nick Richmond



## BOARD REPORT

### A True Merit Chapter!

**Beta Iota Receives Top National Award, Needs Alumni Support to Preserve Chapter in an Effort to Continue Recruiting Quality Men**

By Peter Stewart

The Board of Trustees had a successful 2007 is looking forward to a productive 2008. First, we'd like to thank everyone for their continued support of Beta Iota. Currently, we are on pace to exceed our \$16,000 annual fundraising goal for the 2007-08 (Sept. 1-Aug. 31) giving year, and will do so with your help and generosity. See a list of our contributors to date and add your name to the list online at [www.atogatech.org](http://www.atogatech.org).

Beta Iota is continuing to improve in academics, brotherhood, campus involvement, and leadership. Last year, after several years of continuous progress, the chapter won the True Merit Award for the first time ever. True Merit is the top chapter award from ATO headquarters and recognizes the all-around success of a chapter. This is quite an achievement that the chapter has been working toward for many years. Receiving this honor took years of hard work, dedication, and involvement from the brotherhood. Continuing to achieve the highest award from ATO will be challenging but certainly not impossible. It is quite an honor and one that future classes will continually strive to achieve.

This past fall, an endowment was set up by **Whitney Knoll '70** to provide for leadership

training for several members each year, as well as specific educational opportunities for brothers. The board would like to thank Whit for his contribution and continued involvement with Beta Iota.

There are several projects the board is currently working on including installation of required fire sprinklers to the house, plumbing issues, roof, gutters/eaves, overall watertight integrity of the house, and landscaping. Next fall, the house is planning on an Alumni/Faculty dinner where students, faculty, and alumni can visit and reminisce over dinner. The night will conclude the night with a guest speaker. Tentatively, we are looking toward the end of August, please be on the lookout for further information.

As always, the board is continually looking for suggestions and help. If you have something you'd like to bring to our attention, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Your donations go a long way to helping improve the house, contributing to academics, and assist with alumni communication. If you haven't had a chance to make a donation, please do so at [www.atogatech.org](http://www.atogatech.org).



*The brothers of ATO are excited to have received the True Merit award, the top chapter award from ATO headquarters.*

### Giving Back to ATO from the Day He Graduated to the Day He Died

*Whether Bonded by Blood or Fraternal Ties, Many Have Fond Remembrances of Jack Hamilton*

To say that the ATO was a big part of the life of **William “Jack” Hamilton ’66** would be a drastic understatement. An ATO himself, Jack also had an uncle and two sons, **Jamie ’93** and **Justin ’95**, who were members of the fraternity. In addition, his wife Judy, who attended Emory University, was an ATO Sweetheart.

“My dad loved ATO,” says Jamie. “When I went to Georgia Tech, he encouraged me to pledge—not necessarily ATO, but he had his hopes, of course! He told me that Tech is a difficult school and you can get run down by the courses and workload. Without the brotherhood, it would be really hard to get through.”

In fact, Jack truly believed that he would not have made it through his time at Tech if it weren’t for the love and support of his ATO brothers. He felt that some of the best memories he made in his life were made at Georgia Tech, and he carried many of the friendships he made there throughout his life. Men who started off as fraternity brothers became business acquaintances and clients and helped to make Jack the success that he was later in life.

His pledge brother **Med Walstad ’66** is one of these lifelong friends. “Jack was just a good person,” he says. “He was always upbeat; I can’t think of a time when Jack was down. He was always smiling, always friendly, and genuinely glad to see you whenever he saw you. He was a good friend, and I think about him frequently.”

**John Mills ’67**, another fraternity brother and former roommate of Jack, knew Jack and Judy since high school. Their children were very close in age, and the men crossed paths throughout the years at various social occasions and at the Atlanta Athletic Club, which John



*William “Jack” Hamilton ’66*

became a member of through Jack.

John echoes Med’s views of Jack: “Jack was one of the truest, kindest, most honest human beings I’ve ever dealt with. There was never a finer guy around than Jack; he was a great one. If you needed

*“It is a real tragedy that someone as good as Jack is no longer with us.”*

*– John Mills ’67*

something, you could call him. If he thought you needed something, he’d offer. But he’d do everything he could for himself before he’d ask for help. Jack gave, he never took. It is a real tragedy that someone as good as Jack is no longer with us.”

Jack extended these feelings of giving back to the fraternity that he felt had given so much to him. “ATO was a tremendous part of his life,” says Jamie. “He and my mother dated all through school, and the majority of his wedding party was made up of fraternity brothers. The fraternity was so close to his heart, so he gave back—from the day he graduated right up to the day he died.”

He and Judy, who belonged to the fraternity’s Mothers’ Club, would come to the house and provide meals for Saturday home football games. Jack served on the alumni board and spearheaded a capital campaign that was instrumental in renovating the house.

After graduating from Tech, Jack served in Vietnam and was awarded the bronze star in 1968. He then attended the Woodrow Wilson College of Law, after which he began an extremely successful career in commercial real estate. Not only was Jack a member of the Atlanta Commercial Board of Realtors Million Dollar Club, but he also received the club’s Phoenix Award for qualifying for the club by producing at least a million dollars in real estate transactions each year for 10 years. He formed two of his own companies, Capital Investments and Hamilton Commercial Realty, Inc.

Jack died on July 12, 2007 and is survived by his wife Judy and three sons, Jody, Jamie and Justin.

*On behalf of the entire brotherhood, we will miss you, Jack, but we won’t forget you.*

## CHAPTER REPORT

### ATO Named Best Scholarship Program in Tech's Greek Community

*With 81 Active Members, Chapter Proves it's Possible to Achieve Quantity AND Quality*

In addition to receiving the True Merit Award from ATO headquarters, the members of Beta Iota were the recipients of the best overall scholarship program in the Georgia Tech Greek community, and will strive to win this award for the second year in a row.

This past semester, we had three brothers who achieved a 4.0 GPA: **Kabir Barday** (Computer Science), **Ben Beeler** (Nuclear and Radiological Engineering) and **Charlie Warendh** (Industrial and Systems Engineering).

With a chapter size of 81, our Rush Chairman **Scott Johnson** has said he is looking for the quality of new members and not necessarily a target number. This is the overall mindset of the Beta Iota house and will no doubt create a stronger brotherhood for the future.

During the Georgia vs. Georgia Tech game last semester, ATO sponsored a Waffle House all-you-can-eat fundraiser with all profits going towards the American Cancer Society. Thanks to Waffle House and alumni support, we raised close to \$250 in two hours.

This semester we will be teaming up with the Zeta Tau Alpha sorority to spearhead our Relay for Life team. Relay For Life is a



*Active Beta Iota brothers ski in Whistler, Canada this winter.*

philanthropy organization that donates to the American Cancer Society, and brothers are looking forward to help raise money for this campaign.

Stay in touch with the active chapter online at [www.gtato.org](http://www.gtato.org).

## ALUMNI UPDATES

### '60s

#### Ronald Rich '64

(PO Box 5000 PMB 143, Rancho Santa Fe, CA 92067-5000; ron.rich@cox.net) My wife and I live in Rancho Santa Fe, Calif. near San Diego where we are both retired. I sold my corporate meeting planning business several years ago and am spending our retirement years traveling, enjoying the wonderful San Diego area weather and entertaining with friends. Still get back to Atlanta at least once a year to visit family. We drop by to hear **Harry Middlebrooks '61** play at a restaurant in the LA area from time to time. Harry still has that great musical talent. We visited with **Bob McDaniel '63** and Diane over Christmas, something we always enjoy. This past year Ginny and I traveled to Paris, the Loire Valley, Las Vegas, Hawaii, Mexico, Florida, South Carolina, Disney World, San Francisco and a few other smaller trips. Having time and the good health to do as you please is priceless!

#### Roy Herring '65

(5253 Wydella Rd., Lilburn, GA 30047-6351; rherring@mindspring.com) I retired in 1999 after 34 years with Southern Co. I moved to a smaller house and have traveled to Canada, Hawaii, Greece and Alaska, play golf every week with high school classmates, work out regularly and help friends deal with elder care and retirement planning. Enjoy two fine grandsons and getting into dancing, mostly Cajun and Zydeco.

### '90s

#### David Ritchie '92

(4949 S Westridge Park, Lake Charles, LA 70605-6775; hkritchie@suddenlink.net) After working for Shaw Industries for 15 years, I decided it was time for a change. I am now the Senior Mechanical Reliability Engineer for Alcoa in Lake Charles, La. I have been happily married for 13 years to my college sweetheart (Heather, BME '94). We have a son, Bryce (6 1/2 yrs.), a daughter, Caroline (2 1/2 yrs.) and another son due in April. I would love to hear from you all!

## ON THE WEB



### Are You a Part of our Online Community?

Be sure you're not missing out on frequent Beta Iota updates by registering on [www.atogatech.org](http://www.atogatech.org). By registering on the site, you'll also be signed up for our monthly e-Letter, which contains news updates and event details. Just a few of this month's headlines include Q&A profiles on some of our True Merit undergraduate brothers.

Visit [www.atogatech.org](http://www.atogatech.org) to read these articles and to register on the site. To register, follow the "First Time Login" instructions on the home page and enter your Member ID (found above your name and address on the outside of this newsletter) when prompted.



## Reliving Your Fraternity Days...Fifty Years Later

### Alumnus-Authored Book Captures the Differences in Campus Life from the 1950s to Today, with a Satirical Twist

What would it be like to return to campus with a bunch of fellow 70-something ATO brothers? That is the exact experience that Jim Giddings, and fellow 1956 graduates, had at the ATO '50s Reunion during Georgia Tech's Homecoming in 2006.

Known for his satirical nature and humorous cartoons, Jim captured the weekend's festivities as they unfolded and put a hysterical twist on them in his book "With Your Brothers."

Jim says "The contrasts between Tech and ATO of the 1950s and 2006 were such that I wanted to record them, in a manner of speaking, to share with others."

These are just a few of the many laugh-out-loud cartoons from "With Your Brothers." A full electronic copy of the book is available for download on our web site, [www.atogatech.org](http://www.atogatech.org).



NS 150-265

Address Service Requested

Albert Lea, MN 56007-8007

Alumni Relations Processing Center  
P.O. Box 7007

**ALPHA TAU OMEGA FRATERNITY**  
**GEORGIA TECH**



*Beta Iota Receives ATO's Highest  
True Merit Award...Read Inside!*

RESORTED  
FIRST CLASS MAIL  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
State College, Pa.  
Permit No. 2