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IN MEMORY

ATO recently learned of the passing of the following brothers:

Thornton M. Deas '32
Alexander Lofton '42
Robert L. Sutton Jr. '52
Floyd Fowler '52
Ralph Johnson '53
Samuel Franklin '54
William Adams

Our condolences go out to their families and friends.

DONATIONS AT WORK

This issue of *The Glazebrook Gazette* was made possible in part by the generous support of our alumni. To ensure our alumni programs continue, please make your donation to the chapter today.

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THE GLAZEBROOK GAZETTE

ATO at Georgia Tech • Atlanta, Ga. • March 2013

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CHAPTER UPDATE

Unified Leaders Set Course for Culture Shift

Beta Iota to be Test Pilot for Outside Reformation Consultant

By Wynn Smiley, Executive Director of ATO National

As promised, the Beta Iota Board of Trustees and National Fraternity are following up after the investigation and subsequent actions taken to help the active chapter regain its footing. The good news is that we believe the steps being taken will result in a renewed Beta Iota Chapter that will be a strong campus presence and a point of pride for you and all Beta Iota alumni.

The National Fraternity, in conjunction with the Board of Trustees, conducted a membership review on January 13-14. The review included a look at individual GPAs, assessment of ability to contribute positively to the chapter moving forward, assessment of each individual's past performance and future willingness to strive to uphold ATO ideals and principles, and a drug screen.

"It is important that you and every other Beta Iota alumnus understand and, if visiting the chapter, support and encourage the active chapter in its work to make Beta Iota stronger than ever."

Review results

Seventeen members were removed from the chapter. Three of the 17 lived in the chapter house and have now relocated on campus. **John Robertson, Will Mizell** and I met with the remaining members at the chapter house on January 24. The men were attentive, responsive and ready to cooperate to move the chapter forward. Our message was one of a needed culture change within the chapter. Removing members will help kick start the culture change. However, the chapter still has much hard work ahead of itself to bring new life to the chapter and establish a healthy organizational culture devoid of the dysfunctions turned up in our review.

To that end, the chapter had been engaging

in a few "traditions" that have been practiced at Beta Iota for many years. The chance is very strong that you participated in some or all of these traditions. There is also a good chance that you do not see how a particular activity is no longer acceptable in fraternity-life. The truth of the matter is that times have changed. What may have been acceptable in the past is no longer. The activities have been pointed out to the chapter and the men know that reform, including an overhaul of the pledge program, is a big part of changing the chapter culture. The BOT is fully behind the changes and understands their necessity for the good of the chapter. It is important that you and every other Beta Iota alumnus understand and, if visiting the chapter, support and encourage the active chapter in its work to make Beta Iota stronger than ever.

What became very clear during the course of the membership review is that the vast majority of men, individually, are impressive. However, many of these same men, when engaged in the chapter as a whole, allowed themselves to perpetuate the chapter's dysfunction. We believe the character of the men remaining as a part of Beta Iota is strong. The men are smart and willing to do what it takes to make the chapter better. Therefore, the National Fraternity, Board of Trustees and the chapter are investing in an outside consulting firm to work with the chapter over the next several months to help the brothers identify problem issues and come up with reasonable ways to correct problems. More importantly, the expectation is that the chapter will also take the offensive to bring in new ideas and traditions that will build an exceptional Beta Iota. Meetings with consultants and the chapter will begin within the next week or so. This is a pilot program for the National Fraternity and we will be watching the progress closely. If the reform consulting works—and we believe it

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Unified Leaders Set Course for Culture Shift... *Continued from page 1*

will—it is likely that we will utilize it with other ATO chapters. I believe Beta Iota is a great chapter to test this pilot.

Moving forward

While I was on campus, I briefed the vice president for student affairs, the dean of students, the Institute's judicial officer and the director of student life on the membership review and our plans for engaging an outside consulting firm to work with the chapter. Not surprisingly, the administration had many questions, but in the end, strongly endorsed our plans. In fact, it is my understanding that they were so impressed with the potential of the consulting firm (based, among other

things, on the firm's track record) that they have begun conversations with the firm to do work with the Institute's Greek system.

We – the Board of Trustees, National Fraternity and Institute - expect to see a vibrant chapter that values and lives by ATO principles and ideals. We anticipate a chapter full of ATO pride that will be demonstrated in actions, achievements that will result in a strong reputation. We anticipate a chapter willing and able to engage alumni in open and honest communication moving forward and the chapter engaging in program opportunities corporately and individually that will continue to strengthen each brother's

ATO experience. Finally, we see a great 125th year at Tech and a celebration of Beta Iota's strong heritage and contribution to ATO and the campus community.

It has been a stressful few weeks for the chapter and has brought the chapter's issues to the forefront. I understand the concern that many alumni had regarding the quality of the current chapter and its future. Our belief is that if the chapter does the hard work ahead (and we believe the men will), Beta Iota will be stronger than ever to create a positive ATO experience for current and future members, honor its alumni and lead the Institute's Greek community.

ONWARD AND UPWARD

Chapter Working Toward Bright Future

By Louis Todd '82

With the recent Chapter Review just behind us, many are wondering how things are at the House. The answer? The men seem to be very positive and committed to picking up the pieces and moving forward. Here's a quick recap of what's happening at the House:

John Robertson '63 is handing over the reins as Chairman of the BOT. John has done so much for Beta Iota over the years, first as Chapter Advisor and then as Chairman. He has led us through two major capital campaigns, a major renovation, and who knows how many men he has mentored over the years. Please let John know how much you appreciate all he has done for Beta Iota. John will continue as an active Board member, and **Jamie Hamilton** will join the Board as its new Chairman. Jamie is a member of the 1989 pledge class. He has a lot of passion and love for ATO, and his leadership will help us build stronger relationships between the alumni and actives.

Jamie and I recently met with several of the new officers, including new Worthy Master **Jonathan Radivoj**. The active brothers understand that they have a big opportunity to take the chapter in a different and better direction. It's a chance for them to show leadership and courage, and I believe they have what it takes. The outside consulting firm mentioned in Wynn Smiley's letter, Plaid, spe-

cializes in assessment and personal and organizational development, and they will help with this process. Brothers recently worked through a weekend with members of the Plaid team to run through personal assessment exercises and goal setting. I dropped by one of the sessions on Saturday morning, and I was very impressed with the chapter's dedication to the process. Wynn Smiley came in town and went through the entire session with the guys, and he was pleased with the results.

With all that is going on within the chapter, we continue to invest in the house. We are about to compete major exterior work which included stripping and repainting the fire escape, rebuilding all dormers, removing gutters and rebuilding the fascia board and trim and hanging new gutters and down spouts, replacing the flat roof, repairing the slate roof, trimming back trees from the house and cleaning and painting the stucco at the stairway at the rear of the house.

There has been almost an explosion of new construction among the fraternity and sorority houses. We have the premier site on campus, but our facilities our lagging behind. If you haven't yet

made good on that Capital Campaign pledge, or have been holding out on a pledge, waiting for some positive change, now's the time to step up! **You can download a pledge form from the web site by going to: www.atogatech.org and click the "Click Here to Donate" button in the top right hand corner.**

Looking ahead, there is plenty of reason to be optimistic! The guys are committed to change, the house is getting into shape, and we are about to celebrate the 125th anniversary of the chapter. Now is a great time to get involved and there is plenty of opportunity – the guys are interested in a mentoring program; we need help planning activities for the 125th anniversary; and we need to decide next steps for renovations. If you're interested in helping in any capacity, please contact me at louistodd@wafflehouse.com.



ALUMNI UPDATES

Larry Apperson '51

(27 Robin Drive, Skillman, NJ 08558-2012; appersonsr@aol.com) Since early this year, I have been busy organizing a program we are now calling the "Princeton Cornerstone Community Kitchen," which features a free meal to all (e.g., those in need, seniors looking for companionship, and University students). Even in Princeton, there is hunger. Our program had a humble beginning with a dozen folks attending the first Wednesday night dinner on June 6, 2012. Serving dinner each Wednesday evening, we have now fed more than 750 adults and 113 children at the Princeton United Methodist Church.

Tom Prosser '54

(6402 Knollview Dr., Spring, TX 77389-3684; tnsprosser@att.net) Over the past year, I have been retired in Spring, Texas, just north of Houston. My main activities have been brief visits with my wife, Shirley, to see our daughters and their families in Denver, Colo., and Joliet, Ill. We have also attended our two Texas-based grandson's baseball and football games within the elementary school leagues, and accompanied our son's 2- and 4-year old granddaughters to a nearby lake and park. We are feeling well, except for a slow healing injury to my heel that has limited participation in the ATO football weekend reunion in Atlanta. Whenever you come to Houston, say hello!

Roy (Bunky) Pearson Herring, III '62

(5253 Wydella Rd., Lilburn, GA 30047-6351;

rherring@mindspring.com) My long back issue is better, so I'm now enjoying life better with my three grandsons, golf, and dancing. I'd like to hear more about alumni activities, like Homecoming, golf outings, projects, and more.

Wally Johnson '64

(520 Tannton Way, Atlanta, GA 30319; wjohnson@capitalcityclub.org) I am finally retiring after more than 40 years as tennis director at Capital City Club.

Vernon O'Neal '76

(407 Rivercliff Point, Marietta, GA 30067-4693; vernon.oneal@wellsfargo.com) I am currently an insurance broker with Wells Fargo. I'm married to the former Valerie Cannon, a little sister at Beta Iota. We have two kids, Ansley and Joel, both of whom work in Atlanta. Ansley has just enrolled in the Scheller MBA program at GT. My wife and I like to attend Tech football and BB games. I'm still connected with **Rod Thacker '76, Will McKnight '76, Ken Biggerstaff '76, Bob Sykes '76, David Glover '77, Stan Lumsden '76, Ted Petrides '75, Tom Cobb '76, Bruce Kopkin '76** and several other local ATOs.

Robert Fowler '79

(335 Tennessee Ave #SPO, Sewanee, TN 37383-2001; robfowler3@gmail.com) I am

finishing my third and final year of seminary in Sewanee, Tenn., at The University of the South. I was also ordained as a deacon in The Episcopal Church in Atlanta in December. I will graduate this May and hope to return to the Atlanta area for work in parish ministry.

Jim Butterworth '83

(2042 Alpine Drive, Boulder, CO 80304-3608; jim@butterworth.net) I had lunch with **John Simmons '88**, who just moved to Denver. John was a pledge my last quarter in school (Fall 84) and he noted that I had him sitting at the head of the table. Fortunately, he was still able to name my major and recite the creed before the match burned out. Kidding aside, it's great to reconnect with John and see him out in Colorado.

Michael W. Youtt '83

(3031 Ella Lee Ln., Houston, TX 77019-5909; myoutt@kslaw.com) I moved to Houston 17 years ago, where I still practice law. My wife, Salli, and I met shortly after I moved here. She is a Longhorn and we have four children, ages four to 13. I spend my free time on Georgia Tech sports and carrying out directions from my wife and three daughters. I miss Atlanta, but there is not a chance on Earth I'll ever return—too many Lone Star State family members. The Moellers, Frenchs and Youtts vacation together about once a year.

What's new with you? Share your news, updates, photos and more at www.atogatech.org.

ALUMNI Q&A

Joe Bond '49...Alive and Cruisin' down the Rhine

A special thanks goes out to **Joseph Bond '49** for participating in this semester's Q&A.

How did ATO help make you into the man you are today?

ATO taught me the value of helping and being helped.

What is your most memorable moment from your undergraduate days?

Having two classmates talk me into not giving up on Tech over coffee at the Robery.

Tell us about a brother who was a role

model to you.

I had a house full, but **Blair Truitt** stands out for his calm, understanding manner and helpful attitude.

What's the best advice you've ever received, and from whom?

"Do all things in moderations - then consider your alternatives." Joseph Augustine Sams, my grandfather.

Tell us how you're enjoying the ATO in your alumni years.

It seems that I encounter ATOs everywhere I

go—and every one is a great individual.

What's new with you?

I'm still alive and married to my wife of 51 years, Margaret Ann. We just returned from a three-week river cruise down the Rhine and Mosel with four days in Lucerne. We've also traveled to Spain, Norway, Sweden, Denmark/Estonia and even Canada. It's safe to say I'm "tripped out" and expect to remain within the SE and Dunwoody for a while.

Reconnect with Joe at joema@bellsouth.net.

ALUMNI Q&A

Bull Sessions, Role Models, and the Well-Rounded Man

A special thanks goes out to **Robert Phillips '64** for participating in this semester's alumni Q&A.

Why did you join ATO over other fraternities?

The people. I saw the men of ATO as men who would let me be who I was, yet who would help me develop into a more well-rounded individual.

How did ATO help make you into the man you are today?

I was exposed to men and women who were different from those in my hometown. I learned to be more accepting of others. I also learned that I didn't have to depend on my high school reputation to succeed.

What is your most memorable moment from your undergraduate days?

During a bull session over coffee in the dining room, I realized that my life needed to take a different direction, focusing more on what I could do to make the world a better place.

Tell us about a brother who was a role model to you.

Tommy Seals '61 was a senior when I was a pledge. He entered the ministry, and I did the same after graduating.

What's the best advice you've ever received, and from whom?

Don't ever give up, from my football coach, Carl Ramsey.

Reconnect with Robert at rvp2303@earthlink.net.

MENTORS NEEDED

Undergraduates Show Appreciation and Hope for More Alumni Involvement During Reformation

The chapter held an Alumni Appreciation Day to thank alumni for their generous donations. More than

We would like to thank all the alumni who attended the event and all those who attended Homecoming as well.

\$25,000 of alumni donations were recently used to renovate the house.

The brothers were enthusiastic to meet the alumni. We would like to thank all the alumni who attended the event and all those who attended Homecoming as well.

The chapter is looking for more alumni who are interested in getting involved. We recently started an Alumni Mentor Program, where alumni are paired with active brothers to help prepare for life outside of college. Alumni participation and

support is so critical to a healthy active chapter. During our reformation, we genuinely hope the alumni will consider using our mentoring program as a means to get involved with the fraternity and help shape the future of the chapter.

Please contact Paul Rabbat at prabbat3@gmail.com if you are interested.

Important Update on Chapter Reformation Process ... A Culture Change is on the Horizon



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