

MIAMI CALLED "BEST VALUE"

Miami was once again included in a list of the "100 Best Values in Public Colleges" by *Kiplinger Personal Finance* magazine. The October issue ranked Miami 47th overall.

NEWS FROM YOU

We would like to hear from you for the next newsletter. Please send your personal updates to:

Alpha of Beta Theta Pi
P.O. Box 940
Oxford, OH 45056

MIAMI ROOM AND BOARD RATES SET

The Board of Trustees recently approved room and board rates for the 2001-2002 academic year. The annual cost of room and board for most first-year students will be \$5,970—a 6.8 percent increase.



Team Building activities were an important part of the *Men of Principle Retreat*.



ALPHA SLANT OF BETA THETA PI

ALUMNI NEWSLETTER – WINTER 2001



JOIN US FOR THE BIG CELEBRATION

Please join us on February 23-24, at Miami University as we celebrate the reinstatement of Alpha Chapter.

The celebration commences on Feb. 23 with an informal Open House at the Chapter House from 8:00-10:00 p.m. A continental breakfast will kick-off Saturday festivities, followed by a Reinstallation Ceremony at 3:00 p.m. in Harrison Hall. A cocktail reception will begin at 6:30 p.m. followed by the Banquet at 7:30 p.m. in the Shriver Center Multipurpose Room. A dance will conclude the evening. Suit and Tie attire requested--Black Tie optional.

Invitations were recently mailed to all alumni and parents of current chapter members. If you have not received your copy, please contact us immediately. There is a \$45 charge per person for the festivities. For more information, contact Brent Soller at (513) 664-5870 or sollerbw@muohio.edu

ALPHAS HOST OPEN HOUSE

On Oct. 15 the undergraduate brothers of Alpha had the privilege of hosting a community open house. The purpose of the event was to showcase the house renovations and to introduce the new men of Alpha to the Miami and Oxford communities.

The event included personal tours of the house, an opportunity for guests to meet brothers in the chapter, a short presentation explaining the vision of the chapter, and an awards presentation to two of the chapter's advisors.

The event was a tremendous success with over 75 guests present. Guests included the President of the University, members of the President's Cabinet, City officials, and leaders in the Greek community.

—Paul Edgar '01

PHILANTHROPIC UPDATE

This past semester we participated in a successful fundraiser and service events to benefit the Boys and Girls Club of Hamilton and the Greek Habitat for Humanity project.

The "Chili Cook-Off," cosponsored with Gamma Phi Beta, was an all-you-can eat chili contest featuring bowls full of chili from various student organizations. The event was held prior to the Homecoming Football game and close to \$900 was raised. Brothers contributed their time as well to the Boys and Girls Club by visiting the kids several times last semester.

Commitment to service included our strong participation in the Greek Habitat project. The first of its kind, Miami's Greek community came together to raise funds and erect the nation's first All-Greek Habitat House.

—Mike Reid '02

NEW CLASS INITIATED

On Oct. 29 the chapter, along with three dedicated local alumni (Tom Fey '68, Hi Stephenson '39, and Ed Brown '31) witnessed another exciting initiation in the Hall of Chapters.

The nine qualified *Men of Principle* were introduced to Beta's powerful initiation ritual. As Pledge Educator, I am extremely proud of this outstanding group of men. Their continuous devotion during the pledging process and the excitement shining from their animated faces during initiation made me incredibly proud.

The eight-week pledge program has changed greatly from the old days, and will continue to change and improve for the better. As a chapter, we believe in challenging the mind, rather than challenging the body. Since restarting, all members of our chapter have been brought into a non-hazing environment, which we believe has helped in building a strong brotherhood between actives and pledges.

Other fraternity men wonder how we're so successfully creating a pledge program and chapter free of hazing. Our answer is simple—*Men of Principle*. Through this initiative we not only recruit, but also educate our members on what the fraternity is and what it stands for. We still challenge our members, but we challenge them through intellectual reflection and discussion, not early morning runs and push-ups.

We use our pledging process to allow our newest members to think about the values and principles of Beta Theta Pi on a deeper level. I believe if John Reily Knox "of ever honored memory" and the other founders had administered pledge meetings in 1839, they would have conducted their meetings in the same manner as Alpha today.

—David Jones '01



A night at the Oxford Lanes capped off the most recent *Men of Principle Retreat*.



Puddle Pull was once again one of the highlights of Greek Week.

CONGRATULATIONS NEW INITIATES

Steve Seiple	Bowling Green, OH
Justin Kappers	West Chester, OH
Rich Vaccariello	Perry, OH
Matt Reid	Dublin, OH
Ryan Discher	Indianapolis, IN
Chris Millen	Twinsburg, OH
Jake Bennett	Mason, OH
Jeremy Sander	Orrville, OH
Brian Coate	Dublin, OH

PRESIDENT EMERITUS PAUL PEARSON DIES

Dr. Paul G. Pearson, president of Miami University from 1981-1992, died on August 12, of cancer at his home in Oxford. Pearson was 73.

It was said of President Pearson that he led Miami into the national spotlight without ever seeking that spotlight for himself. Throughout his 11-year presidency, he was widely praised for his blend of leadership skills, vision and sense of humanity.

During his tenure as president, Miami received wide recognition as one of the best values in higher education and was named a "Public Ivy," one of only eight universities nationwide to be so honored.

STAFF

Brent Soller Editor-in-Chief
Stacey Castle Designer

Thank you to all contributing writers and Brian Breitholz for his invaluable help. From the brothers of Alpha Chapter of Beta Theta Pi,
Yours in kai
Brent Soller

FROM THE ALUMNI MAILBOX

Robert L. Galbraith '34

Retired for some time now. Moved here from Hamilton, OH to be near my daughter, Sally Haughin, since my wife is in ill health.

6360 Tippecanoe Road, Apt. #2
Canfield, OH 44406

David A. Bergstrom '56

Retired to the gold capital of the world, Pinehurst, North Carolina, two years ago. Manage to get five days a week on the courses. Last count, I have six grandchildren: four girls, two boys. Congratulations and best wishes on your rebuilding program.

40 Rockland Lane, Pinehurst, NC 28374
(910)295-9085 golfberg@pindhurst.net

Paul (Pete) W. Girard '41

Retired from surgical instrument business since 1980. Enjoy reading fiction and English history. Spend my summers in Lake Annis Nova Scotia which is inland 18 miles from Yarmouth. At Christmas my daughter and I go to London, where she likes the theater and shopping. I have a son who lives in Prescott, AZ and a granddaughter. No problem keeping active. Enjoy my monthly poker party and occasional visits to Halligain's Pub. Still enjoy sports, etc. 1510 Niessen Road, Orlando, PA 19075 (215)886-6198

Lee Sparks '73

Nice to see you're back on track. Miami seems like yesterday, but I've been married to Joan for 25 years; two children: Christopher 15, Caroline 13. I own a mid-sized architectural firm in Delaware working regionally. Most interesting project this year: Harley Davidson Museum and a 36-hole golf/residential community partnered with Davis Love Golf. We have just passed our 20th year anniversary in business. Good luck to Alpha! 1205 Hopeton Road, Wilmington, DE 19807 H: (302)652-0833 W: (302)652-4337 E-mail: LeeFore@aol.com

MIAMI RANKS HIGH

U.S. News & World Report recently ranked Miami University as tied for 26th place on its list of national public universities. Miami was the only Ohio college or university named a "Best Buy." Criteria used included academic reputation, retention of students, faculty resources, student selectivity, financial resources, graduation rate performance and alumni giving.

Thomas (Tom) H. Mark '48

Retired from realtor/home builder. Wife, Jean (Ohio University graduate and teacher). City Councilman (2nd term) Washington Court House. Active member City Tree Committee, Lion's Club.

103 Highland Ave., Lehigh Condominiums, Washington Ct. Hs., OH 43160
(740)335-1446 ww6570@dragonbbs.com

Carl Tinstman '67

Just relocated to Geneva, Switzerland, where my wife, Tinbet (from Ethiopia) and I bought a 300-year-old Frehsh house in the Jura Mountains. Working with a global United Nations team striving to eradicate polio, globally in the next two years. Welcome hearing from brothers by e-mail.

UNICEF Pouch, 3 U.N. Plaza, New York, NY 10017
Home (France): 33 450 410 782; Work (Switzerland): 41 22 791 3929
Ctinstman@unicef.org

Steve Gibbs '83

Married to Debbie (not Miami grad). Twin kids: Grant and Emily. Partner in a manufacturer's rep agency (DSA, Inc-Atlanta). We sell architectural and building products throughout the southeast. Love Atlanta—great place to live and raise a family.

310 Saddlebrook Drive, Roswell, GA 30075
H: (770)518-0516 W: (770)664-7732
Sggibbs@aol.com

Gary Valvo '75

Work as a pilot for Delta Airlines and recently transferred to the flight training department as a B757/767 Pilot instructor.

585 20th St.
Hermosa Beach, CA 90254
garyvalvo@aol.com

SCOREBOARD

It would be expected for a new chapter to struggle in athletic competition and consequently in Greek Week. Not the case for the Betas, however! The success of last year's intramurals carried over into the fall semester.

We finished a strong 12 of 27 fraternities in the Greek Week competition. The week was highlighted with a strong showing in two of the most popular events, as we advanced to the semifinals in Puddle Pull and to the finals in football.

We also placed in broomball, and Brother Kevin Enos represented us well by advancing to the finals in racquetball.

We've also succeeded in the regular intramural season. Our soccer and softball teams were both undefeated in regular season. And in football, again we finished our second regular season undefeated.

—Jack Weston '02



Brothers helped first-year students move into their rooms when classes began in the Fall.

MU IN TOP 10 STUDY ABROAD

Miami ranked seventh in the nation in the number of students who study abroad.

About 28 percent of the student body studies abroad, the fifth highest participation rate among research and doctoral institutions. While Europe remains a primary destination, travel to nations in Africa, Asia and Latin America is on the upswing.

FIRE AT SIGMA CHI

An early morning fire on Nov. 10, at the Sigma Chi Fraternity House forced the evacuation of approximately 50 students and hospitalization of one student for smoke inhalation.

The fire was reported to the Oxford Fire Department at about 5:10 a.m. The probable cause of the blaze was a lighted candle left unattended in an area of combustible materials.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

As President of Alpha I am pleased to report things are going better than we could have ever expected. Our chapter has gone above and beyond what was expected and we are preparing to come through on our promise of becoming not only the best chapter on campus, but a model chapter for Beta Theta Pi and the fraternity system as a whole.

Living a life based on strong principles is paying off. Alpha Chapter brothers respect each other and women, drink responsibly, serve their community, have fun, and attain the best grades on campus.

This year marks our first year living in the newly renovated house and it is absolutely beautiful. We would like to thank our alumni and everyone who contributed to this project. Living together for the first time has had its challenges and certainly its rewards. Our members are now closer and the house has given us the centrality we needed to excel.

People on campus have taken notice of not only the incredible structure we live in, but more importantly, the foundation of principles we stand on.

Thank you so much for your support and I hope our enthusiasm is an encouragement to you. We have been blessed with the gift of Beta Theta Pi, and our hope is that we can live in a way that honors that gift and makes us worthy of wearing our badges.

—Ben Beshear '01

WEBSITES TO CHECKOUT

www.betathetapi.org

www.beta-theta-pi.com

www.alphabeta2000.com

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS 2001

President	Justin Beck
Vice President	Jason Roudabush
Treasurer	Brent Soller
Secretary	Andy Scarpitti
Recruitment	Andrew Peters
Social	Brian Bradford
Pledge Education	Steve Seiple
House Manager	Dave Garrigus
Philanthropy	Mike Reid
Scholarship	Mike Haygood
Risk Management	Justin Kappers

ALPHA ADVISORY BOARD

Brian Breitholz	Chapter Counselor
Jere Crawley, <i>Colorado Mines '92</i>	Advisor
Thomas Fey, <i>Miami '73</i>	Risk Management
Steve Becker, <i>Florida '69</i>	Scholarship
Jim Wilson, <i>Miami '52</i>	Financial
Tom Olver, <i>Central Michigan '98</i>	Ritual
Martin Cobb, <i>Eastern Kentucky '96</i>	Pledge Education
Judson Horras, <i>Iowa State '97</i>	Recruitment
Jonathan Brant, <i>Miami '75</i>	Leadership
Ron & Mary Beshear	Parents Committee Chairs
Ed Brown, <i>Miami '31</i>	Alpha Heritage
H.H. Stephenson, <i>Miami '39</i>	BetaHeritage
Martin Dixon, <i>Miami '90</i>	Alumni Mentor



Brothers demonstrated their lip sync talents and dance moves during Greek Week's Bandstand competition.