# 125 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE - CONTINUING OUR TRADITION Alpha Tau Chapter of Beta Theta Pi at the University of Nebraska

# LOYAL BROTHERS COMMIT \$1.775 MILLION TO RENOVATE CHAPTER HOUSE

## We Need Your Help to Reach the \$3 Million Goal

In 1888, a group of young men created an organization unlike any other at the University of Nebraska. Today, 124 years later, Beta Theta Pi represents the standard of excellence within the Greek community. Our success on campus and as alumni proves that Beta has made—and still makes—a major difference in the lives of all brothers.

### Help Alpha Tau Remain Competitive

Today, we must focus our efforts on providing the same opportunities for future brothers. To remain competitive within the Greek community we must stay in the forefront. In the last eight years, UNL has materially renovated its existing dorms and built four new suite-style complexes on campus. At the same time, several fraternities have completed major renovation projects to meet new, University-mandated life-safety requirements and improve their facilities. Further, one tore down an existing house and built a new house while another new fraternity is beginning construction this fall.

It's time for us to provide a safe, modern facility that will attract the best and brightest young men well into the 21st century.

### \$3 Million Goal Announced

It is with great pride and enthusiasm that we announce the *125 Years of Excellence ~ Continuing Our Tradition* campaign. Initial commitments from select alumni total \$1.775 million. This early support is indicative of the lifelong importance of our experiences as Betas, and it adds to the reasons we're excited to announce the campaign. To reach our goal of \$3 million, the generous and significant support of every living brother is needed.

### Make a Difference and Contribute Today

We would like to extend a hearty thank-you to the generous alumni who have contributed to the campaign so far. With \$1.225 million still needed to reach our goal, the commitment of every brother is vital to our success. We need your help to make this project a reality. The campaign is structured with an available five-year pledge period, and gifts may be made in honor of or in memory of a family member or brother. Importantly, gifts are tax deductible if given through the UNL Foundation to the Beta Charitable Fund.

Over the coming weeks and months, you will receive information on this project, upcoming events, and ways you can get involved and help Alpha Tau reach this goal. In addition, we will provide you with a website address where the latest information will be posted. We look forward to leading this campaign and helping Beta remain the best on campus.

Yours in \_kai\_,

Campaign Chairmen Bruce McKeag '65 (402) 488-3379 bm93558@windstream.net

Bill Dana '76 (402) 968-7977 bdana@cbremega.com

### Campaign Status At-a-Glance

As of September 21, 2012 \$3 Million Fundraising Goal \$1,775,383 in Total Contributions 107 Loyal Donors 1,352 Mailable Alumni



# BETA THETA PI

### CAMPAIGN Leadership

### HONORARY Chairmen

Carl Mammel '52 Grant Gregory '60 Dave Karnes '68

### **CHAIRMEN**

Bruce McKeag '65 Bill Dana '76

### BOARD MEMBERS

Charlie Wright '51 Tom Jacob '59 Steve Andersen '60 Jim Rembolt '62 John McHenry '67 Norm Hedgecock '70 Mark Kratina '70 Craig Pohlman '74 Dave Nikunen '80 Mark Jepson '82 Mark Kratina Jr. '99 Aaron Wiegert '01 Mark Antonson '04

# Preston Mesick '03 Is Compelled to Support Future Generations of Beta Theta Pi

**Proton Mesick '03** had many great role models in the Greek system. With several family members who are Greek, it was inevitable that Preston would also join a fraternity. When Preston attended University of Nebraska-Lincoln, he joined Beta Theta Pi. He enjoyed his time in Alpha Tau Chapter and had many great achievements. The Alpha Tau Chapter won the Knox Award, the general fraternity's highest honor, every year he was there. The

prestigious award is awarded to the chapter that excels in areas such as scholarship, philanthropic events, alumni relations, and risk management. "It is rare for a chapter to receive this award even once. We worked hard and earned it four years straight."

The lessons that Preston learned in Alpha Tau prepared him for his career. Preston earned his bachelor's degree in computer engineering and now works on Wall Street for Citigroup. "The world doesn't care about how smart you are unless you can relate to different people. The social interaction you gain in the fraternity allows you to jump into the business world." Preston encourages the undergraduates of Beta Theta Pi to always maintain their integrity and be tenacious when pursuing goals. "Being



able to network with other successful people and not accepting mediocrity pushes you to be better. Undergraduates should focus on adding value to whatever they are a part of without ever sacrificing their integrity."

He believes that Beta Theta Pi impacted his life in a great way and feels compelled to invest in future generations of Alpha Tau. "When you're an undergraduate, sometimes you don't have the foresight to see how the

little things matter." Preston gave to the campaign to help the chapter be more efficient and is pleased by how his gift will positively affect a large number of people. **"When you work hard and reap the benefits of having that kind of experience, you feel obligated to give that opportunity to someone else.** Making the chapter house better helps recruit future successful members. I hope future members will also have a good experience and make long-lasting friendships. To keep in contact after all these years is a good indication that those relationships were more than circumstantial."

Preston and his wife, Erin, live in New York City. He can be contacted at pmesick@gmail.com.

## CARL MAMMEL '52 URGES BROTHERS TO INVEST IN ALPHA TAU CHAPTER

arl Mammel '52 is passionate about seeing Beta Theta Pi succeed. He joined Beta Theta Pi at Iowa State University and then transferred to the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. He quickly made friends with the Alpha

Tau Chapter brothers. The brothers were leaders on campus, involved in community activities, and excelled scholastically. Carl enjoyed his experience within the chapter and is thankful for how the experience has impacted his life.

During his time at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Carl earned a bachelor's degree in business. Carl has accomplished many great things, including founding Mammel, Schropp, Swartzbaugh, Engler and Jones in 1959. The firm



merged with SilverStone in 1991, and Carl serves as a board member. The company provides services in executive benefits, employee benefits planning and wealth transfer planning. He also was a founding partner of M Financial in 1978

and served as the chairman of M Financial Holdings Board of Directors. M Financial is one of the nation's largest insurance and investment marketing organization, which specializes in executive benefits and wealth transfer planning. "Through Alpha Tau Chapter activities, I gained an understanding of how to deal with people and benefit the university." Carl is now enjoying his retirement and wants to see future members of Beta Theta Pi succeed as he did. Carl is devoted to seeing the chapter excel as it did when he was an undergraduate. "The chapter in Lincoln had people who were involved in campus activities and who developed self-confidence. I learned responsibility as an officer in the chapter by being a rush chairman. I gained selling skills because I had to be convincing and able to locate qualified individuals that were interested in joining the chapter." Recognizing the financial need of the chapter, Carl made a commitment to the campaign. "The facility will benefit the members because they will have appropriate rooms to study and engage in social activities. The chapter house has to be in good shape in order to attract other top members." Carl urges brothers to invest in the lives of the chapter members and ensure their success.

Carl resides in Omaha, Nebraska, and can be contacted at carl@mammelfoundation.org.



# Thank You, Loyal Alumni, for Donating \$1,775,000 to the 125 Years of Excellence ~ Continuing Our Tradition Campaign

e are deeply grateful to the Beta Theta Pi brothers listed below for committing more than \$1,775,000 to the 125 Years of Excellence ~ Continuing Our Tradition capital campaign. This generosity demonstrates that these alumni recognize the importance of ensuring the future of Alpha Tau Chapter. Commitments are still needed from our alumni to achieve our \$3,000,000 goal.

Gifts to the campaign can be made over a five-year period and may be made in honor or memory of a brother. Pledge class and family gifts are also welcomed. All donors contributing a minimum of \$2,500 to the campaign will be recognized on a plaque prominently displayed in the chapter house. If an error has been made in recording your gift or your name has been mistakenly omitted or listed improperly, we sincerely apologize. Please send corrections to updates@1515.org or to Beta Theta Pi Alumni Association of Nebraska, P.O. Box 22251, Lincoln, NE 68542. We are grateful for your support!

#### \_\_kai\_\_ Circle

(\$250,000 and above) Alpha Tau Chapter The Mammel Foundation Carl G. Mammel '52

#### **Knox Circle**

(\$100,000 to \$249,999) W. Grant Gregory '60 William C. Dana '76

#### **Alpha Tau Legacy Society** (\$50,000 to \$99,999)

Stephen D. Andersen '60 Hedgecock Family Gift Norman R. Hedgecock '70 Jake W. Hedgecock '10 Irv Dana III '72 In memory of his parents, Irving R. Dana Jr. & Mary Jane Dana David G. Werner '75

### **1888 Charter Society** (25,000 to \$49,999)

Jacob Family Gift Thomas N. Jacob '59 Thomas A. Jacob '85 D. Bruce McKeag '65 John M. McHenry '67 Hon. David K. Karnes '68 In honor of Dave and Liz Karnes Donald J. Walla, M.D. '71 Doug E. Deeter '72 Penny and Jim Krieger '72 Craig Pohlman '74 Sjulin Family Gift Carl J. Sjulin '80 David H. Sjulin '82 Kimberly and Thomas Egan Jr. '89

#### **Loving Cup Society** (\$15,000 to \$24,999)

James R. Poggemeyer Fund Thomas D. Poggemeyer '62 In memory of James R. Poggemeyer '62 Larry L. Dlugosh '63 David L. Erickson '69 Kratina Family Gift Mark D. Kratina '70 Mark D. Kratina Jr. '99 Scott D. Greenwood, M.D. '71 David F. Firestone '72 Lester F. Buckley '74 Mark A. Larsen '76 Russell V. Peterson Jr. '76 Stacy and Bradley Focht '77 Kirk J. Trofholz '78 The Foley Family and Thomas G. Foley '81 In memory of James P. Foley '50 Edward E. Miller '81

### Dragon Society

(\$10,000 to \$14,999) Donald B. Stokes '59 C. Lee Peterson '60 Dr. R. C. Mead '62 James E. Rembolt '62 Sam P. Baird '63 Robert B. Keim '65 John W. Hancock '66 Thomas G. Morgan '66 Craig Christiansen '70 Douglas V. Krenz '70 Sue and Dr. Jud C. Martin '72 Haskins Family Gift Gregory E. Haskins, M.D. '74 Jeffrey W. Haskins '75 John M. Kilty '76 Nikunen Family Gift Michael A. Nikunen '76 David P. Nikunen '80 Robert D. Nikunen '84 John F. Dittman '81 Larry J. Lubeck '81 JoAnn and Mark D. Jepson '82

Preston M. Mesick '03 Mark Antonson '04

### **Wooglin Society**

(\$5,000 to \$9,999) Jean S. Jeffrey In memory of Michael L. Jeffrey '63 Charles E. Wright '51 Jon J. Hinrichs, M.D. '62 John C. Abel '63 William S. Bullock '63 Lawrence A. Frolik '63 Kile W. Johnson '63 Steven R. Hutchins '64 John C. Hall, M.D. '66 In memory of John Abrahamson '60 and Geof Heiden '66 Michael J. Wortman '67 David R. Holst '70 Thomas E. Martin '70 Peter J. Hohnstein '76 Tim A. Scott '77 Thomas W. Showers '77 In memory of Tom Beyer '77 Brian A. Worrall '77 John A. Albright '78 Clark W. Antonson '78 Michael W. McGillick '79 Philip E. Strevey '79 Drew D. Stange '80 Michael S. Kerrigan '82 Ervin L. Williams '08

#### **Three Stars Society**

(\$2,500 to \$4,999) Terry R. Carpenter '60 Richard S. Elliott, M.D. '64 Gary W. Frazer '66 Michael J. McCarthy '69 David E. Morrison '71 In honor of Scott D. Greenwood, M.D. '71 Brian M. Mumaugh '76 In memory of William D. Holmes '76 Joseph "Bill" Santoro Jr. '76 Douglas H. Schuring '78 Paul A. Magnuson '81

### 1515 R Fund

### (\$1,515 to \$2,499)

Harold E. Johnson '58 In memory of Earl and Evelyn Johnson Gary E. Hruby '61 In memory of James R. Trester '61 Peter E. Allman '76 David N. Devoe '76 In honor of his Beta brothers William C. Duven '76 Michael A. Minnick '81 Aaron J. Wiegert '01

### Alpha Tau Pride Fund

(\$500 to \$1,514) Harlan "Bud" Wiederspan '51 Gary M. Matson '60 Craig Colburn '62 John H. Lonnquist '62 David R. Buntain '67 Jon D. Hoffmaster '67 Tom A. Wiese '67 Bill V. Strain '68 Duane R. Sullivan '68 Kent Endacott '70 Thomas W. Allman '74 Brian K. Bassett '75 James F. Jenkins, D.D.S. '77 In honor of Nellie and Hattie John C. Peterson, M.D. '79 Jeffrey D. Beavers '00

#### **Other Donors**

John A. Haslam '45 Joseph L. Parker '66 John H. Chain '72 Gregory J. Walklin '03 **Exciting Campaign Announcement Located Inside** See page 1 for more details.

### ALUMNI EVENTS



The undergraduates hosted an event for alumni and dads on September 15 and 16. A Dad and Alumni Luncheon was held on Saturday, followed by a golf tournament on Sunday. The tournament was a great success and the winning group consisted of Jake Hedgecock '10, Norm Hedgecock '70, Blake Frederickson '10, and Mark Fredrickson.

### 173RD NATIONAL BETA THETA PI CONVENTION Alpha Tau Honored with National Award

More than 1,000 Betas gathered in Chicago, Illinois this August to celebrate the success of our fraternity, including nine undergraduate Alpha Tau men. The experience was tremendous and the men will be able to share their knowledge with all Alpha Tau undergraduates. The chapter was also honored with an award for Outstanding Chapter Involvement.

### Alpha Tau Completes Successful Recruitment

An emphasis of rush this year was to recruit a diverse group of members who are wellbalanced and possess strong character. A special effort was made to recruit members from outside of the Omaha and Lincoln areas, and eight of the new members are from out of state. Each of the 28 new pledges has a proven record of involvement and leadership in high school and the active chapter is confident that they will successfully become great Betas.



Josh Burks '11, Kyle Kaluza '11, and John Haslam '11 attended the John and Nellie Wooden Institute for Men of Principle.

### 125 Years of Excellence - Continuing Our Tradition

### Alpha Tau Chapter of Beta Theta Pi at the University of Nebraska

### **Beta Theta Pi Alumni Association of Nebraska** P.O. Box 22251 Lincoln, NE 68542

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### BETA THETA PI 2012 FALL PLEDGE CLASS

Aaron Aldana\* Nebraska City (Brother Adam Aldana '11)

> **Brett Bergstrom** *Sioux Falls, S.D.*

Zack Borvan\* New Lenox, Ill. (Brother Bob Borvan '10)

> Hayden Byrd Bennington

John Chatterton Cottage Grove, Minn.

> Hunter Day Lincoln

Alex Engel Greenwood Village, Colo.

> Skyler Epperson Hickman

Andrew Fehr\* Omaha (Brother Grant Fehr '11) Ryan Furne Omaha

**Kyle Hall** Orange County, Calif.

> Robert Harvey Omaha

Scott Ingham Lincoln

Alex Kindopp Watertown, S.D.

Adam Klanecky Lincoln

Erik Nelson\* St. Charles, Ill. (Grandfather Don Nelson, Lawrence University)

> Nick Preister Columbus

Grant Rathje Seward

Kevin Real Papillion Joe Richert Lincoln

John Schoppert Sioux Falls, S.D.

> Nick Small Lincoln

Collin Stange\* Lincoln (Uncle Drew Stange '80, Cousin Dayton Stange '11)

> Jacob Taylor Omaha

**Jared Thomsen** Omaha

Collin Tussing Lincoln

> Jed Weis Scottsbluff

**Alex Wirth** *Grand Island* 

\*Legacy; relative in parentheses