

# BETA CHI BANNER

THE T A C H I F R A T E R N I T Y

Winter 2004

## INSIDE

### MAKING PROGRESS

Treasurer's Report, Page 2

### LEADERS ON CAMPUS

Undergrad Report, Page 3

### BOARD MEMBERS

Page 4

### UPCOMING EVENTS

Page 4

BERNIE CLARK '00, PRESIDENT

## A Look at the Past Year

I hope this newsletter finds you well, and trust you are enjoying the holiday season that is upon us. As we come to the end of another year, many find themselves in a time of reflection. As president of the alumni association, I personally look back at the last year with a sense of accomplishment and renewed enthusiasm. We have made great strides and, under the leadership of treasurer Dan Van Aken '95 and retiring secretary Jeff Klein '96, we have a stronger grasp on our finances and continue to offer

Though we may not wear the letters of Theta Chi across our chests as we once did, we will forever wear the badge of our beloved fraternity in our hearts and minds.

professional communications to our alumni. At our recent homecoming meeting, there were a number of positions open for election, including all four officers. I am pleased to continue working with Dan, and know from previous experience that our new vice president Rob Walther '99 and secretary Chris Lockman '04

will help take the organization to new heights. I'd also like to welcome trustees Tom Ess '04, Dan Garfinkel '00, Blake McGourty '99, and Justin Kaszonyi '04 to the board.

You may find the New Year a time for reflection as well. Since Allegheny, each of us has gone in a different direction. Many brothers have started families, traveled the world, and are leading successful and productive lives. I hope

*continued on page 2*

ALUMNUS PROFILE BY JEFF KLEIN '96

## Stephen Strumlok '44

### Patriot, Husband, Father... Theta Chi

One of the chapter's most recent large contributions came from brother Stephen Strumlok of the Class of 1944. We wanted to know more about our brother, who graduated during such a historic era in the life of our nation, and Mr. Strumlok showed that he is as generous with his time as with his money, as he reflected on his many years offering the Helping Hand.

Not long after the attack on Pearl Harbor, Mr. Strumlok joined Theta Chi at Allegheny College because several friends with whom he worked were Theta Chi's. Several of those friends were not only brothers but also became comrades-in-arms as they answered

the call to serve in the nation's military, joining the Medical Service Corps (MSC).

Mr. Strumlok's enlistment marked the beginning of a long career of service that spanned several continents and nearly three decades. These illustrious years saw a number of notable developments in technology, at which Mr. Strumlok was on the forefront. For instance, after spending some time studying pharmacology at the University of Alabama, he was assigned to New York City where the MSC was introduced to a new item—penicillin.

However, his abilities did not end with medical service. When the Military Intelligence Training Center was looking for personnel with foreign language ability, Mr. Strumlok stepped forward. Because his mother was Ukrainian and his father was Austrian, he had two very valuable fluencies to offer the cause. The experience at the center also afforded him an opportunity to meet some interesting figures.

*continued on page 3*



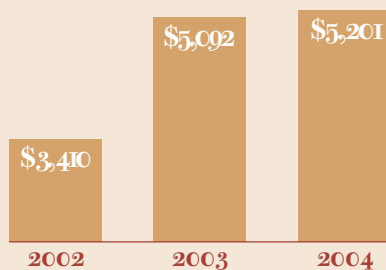
Brothers Chris Manuel '95 and Sam Lauricia '99 took home the trophy this year at the 2004 Reunion Weekend Golf Tournament.

# Making Progress and Setting Goals

2004 was a year of great progress for the Beta Chi Building Association Annual Fund. We set an all-time record in dollar amount donated (\$5,201) and average amount of donation (\$75). More impressive, our 2004 donor base spanned 70 years of brotherhood from the 1940's through the present! This is proof positive that the Theta Chi experience at Allegheny has been positive and meaningful for decades. It is our responsibility to ensure that this tradition lives on.

**This year we set an all-time record in dollar amount donated and average amount of donation. Thank you to all our donors!**

Total Donations by Giving Year



The funds raised were put to good use. Some of the projects completed during the year were the following:

- The installation of a state-of-the-art fire alarm system hard-wired to the Meadville fire department
- Repairs to the bathroom facilities
- New drop ceiling for the dance floor
- A consistent and professional alumni communications program (recently brought in-house to reduce costs and provide more content flexibility)
- Sponsorship of the 8th Annual Homecoming Feast
- Sponsorship of the 1st Annual Reunion Weekend Golf Tournament

The Building Association's 2005 goals are simple. We want to continue to provide our undergraduate brothers with the best living experience possible and keep our alumni brothers informed and involved. To do this, we must continue to invest in the chapter house, provide a consistent communications program, and host alumni events that are family-friendly, and closer to where our alumni reside. The following are some of the goals we've set to achieve our objectives:

- Landscaping that will ensure proper drainage away from the building
- The replacement of hallway and basement floor tiles
- The remodeling of one or more bathrooms
- The replacement of carpet in the living room and upstairs hallway
- The publication of two alumni newsletters each year
- Sponsorship of the 9th Annual Homecoming Feast
- Sponsorship of the 2nd Annual Reunion Weekend Golf Tournament
- Regional alumni events in Pittsburgh, Cleveland, Buffalo, and Washington, D.C.

Percent of Total Donations

|           |     |
|-----------|-----|
| 1940-1949 | 7%  |
| 1950-1959 | 13% |
| 1960-1969 | 17% |
| 1970-1979 | 19% |
| 1980-1989 | 22% |
| 1990-1999 | 19% |
| 2000-2009 | 3%  |

We need your continued support to accomplish these objectives! If you are among the 69 brothers that generously donated during 2004, please consider increasing your gift this year. If you have yet to donate, please consider making a contribution to the 2005 Annual Fund Campaign. A pledge card and return envelope are included with this newsletter. Join us in helping preserve and strengthen the bonds of brotherhood that have played such a vital role in the lives of Allegheny men for at over 7 decades! ■



*Building Association president Bernie Clark '00 returns to the chapter house for the Board's homecoming meeting.*

## PASTYEAR, *continued*

you feel as I do that your experience as a Theta Chi was an important and meaningful part of your lifelong education and pursuit of happiness. As a brother in our fraternity, you learned invaluable leadership and social skills that you continue to use today. Though the faces may have changed through the years, the chapter you left behind still lives and thrives at Allegheny. Today, these young gentlemen follow in our footsteps and carry the same torch we each have proudly held. We must do our part as alumni to nurture these men and ensure that hundreds more follow in their footsteps as well.

While many alumni find it difficult to participate as members of the building association or as advisors to our undergraduates, we welcome and encourage those who can to step forward. You have far more to offer than you might realize. There are of course other ways to demonstrate your support. You can sponsor an internship for one of our undergraduates, or pledge a financial gift to our annual fund. Our needs are ongoing, and alumni contributions do far more than help with necessary expenditures. Your donation each year helps us to make much-needed repairs to the chapter facility and offsets the cost of communications like this newsletter. I want to personally thank all the brothers who contributed to last year's annual fund, and ask for your support again this year. It has likely been some time since you last walked the halls of our chapter house, but we can never forget that we are brothers for life. And though we may not wear the letters of Theta Chi across our chests as we once did, we will forever wear the badge of our beloved fraternity in our hearts and minds. ■

# Leaders on Campus and in the Community

The undergraduate report of last semester described a period of transition left as a result of the graduation of several seniors who helped to reconstruct our brotherhood. As this semester draws towards a close, I can honestly say the transition could not have gone more smoothly. The new leaders of our house did an outstanding job in filling the shoes of our recently graduated alumni.

Much of this semester's emphasis was placed on rushing and increasing the number of members in our brotherhood. I am proud to say that this semester's efforts led to nine freshmen accepting bids with the strong possibility of three to four more accepting before pledging begins next semester. We have always focused our efforts on the quality of a pledge class rather than the size of a pledge class. This semester I am pleased to report we have accomplished both goals by assuring the quality and quantity of next semester's pledge class.

Beta Chi chapter has done a tremendous job in living up to the ideal of the Helping Hand by expanding our commitment to philanthropy. We have continued running and maintaining the Furniture Closet, working with the Elm Street afterschool program, and participating in the campus-wide Make A Difference Day. Additionally, two of our brothers, Trevor Samios '05 and Seth Malone '06, initiated a program known as Project Fit, in which brothers address the health education

**Two of our brothers initiated Project Fit...brothers address the health education needs of underprivileged children in the area. Also, our pen pal program continued to flourish with more brothers becoming pen pals to students of the Guys Mills Elementary School.**

needs of underprivileged children in the Crawford County area. Also, our pen pal program continues to flourish with more and more brothers becoming pen pals to students of the Guys Mills Elementary School.

Beta Chi chapter continues to increase our on campus presence with Don Lippert '07 receiving an appointment to the Allegheny College Honor Committee. Lee Neubert '06 and Aaron Fossi '06 were also

recently elected to respective Vice President and Events Coordinator positions on the Inter-Fraternal Council (IFC). Brothers continue to be involved in intramural sports ranging from football to dodge ball with the Theta Chi Regulators winning the coveted Intramural Dodge Ball Championships. In addition to participation in Greek Week and Homecoming the brothers of Beta Chi chapter were named best dressed at Greek Sing where we participated in fund raising for flood victims of Crawford County. Our brotherhood continuously stresses the importance of forming a working relationship between the Greek community and the on-campus community.

Finally, our recently held elections placed a new group of juniors on the Executive Board, leaving the leadership of the house in the promising hands of the upperclassmen. I'd like to thank the former Executive officers consisting of Jason Bittel, Kurt Gutshall, Mark Receski, Andrew Chrzan, Jack McCain, and Greg Fincke for the tremendous efforts they made in leading our house in a most positive direction. I am quite confident the new Executive board Board will have no problems continuing their efforts. ■



Members and alumni gather at the 8th Annual Theta Chi Homecoming Feast.

## STRUMLOK, *continued*

One such person was a woman teaching Russian there, named Tolstoy, who was the niece of the Tolstoy who wrote War and Peace.

Other notable assignments included stints in Europe and Asia. While stationed in Korea, Mr. Strumlok's outfit had critical standby orders: "Things were hot in Vietnam at the time," he says. His wife Clara was living in Saegertown, Pennsylvania and, to his pleasant surprise, his tour of duty was cut short, and Mr. Strumlok returned home to his family.

After several relocations within the U.S., in 1970, Mr. Strumlok retired from his last assignment in Washington, D.C., and moved to Carlisle, Pa., with Clara. He retired as a colonel, having served a combined 28 years as an enlisted soldier and an officer.

Though Clara is now deceased, their three children keep her memory alive. Daughter Marilyn is the oldest and lives in Camp Hill, Pa. Son Stephen R. and his wife are teachers in Syracuse, New York. The youngest, Nancy, lives in Manheim, Pa. Having recently moved to Mechanicsburg, Pa., Mr. Strumlok has returned to be close to his roots.

Though he has occasionally had the opportunity to reunite with his Theta Chi brothers, the march of time has claimed many of his comrades. He acknowledges, though with the confident peace of a man who has lived a full life, "There aren't too many of my classmates left!" Mr. Strumlok continues to live by the Law of the Helping Hand, not only as a patriot and father, but as a brother of Theta Chi, who continues to be an example to others—in word and in deed. ■



*Brothers representing several decades of the chapter's history gather in front of the fraternity house at 388 North Main Street to commemorate homecoming.*

## BETA CHI BUILDING ASSOCIATION BOARD MEMBERS

### OFFICERS

**President**

Bernie Clark '00  
clarkb@ijet.com

**Vice President**

Rob Walther '99  
robw3rd@hotmail.com

**Secretary**

Chris Lockman '04  
clockman@mglaw.com

**Treasurer**

Dan Van Aken '95  
vanaken1@msn.com

### TRUSTEES

Chris Manuel '95  
Sam Lauricia '99  
Jason Miller '99  
Blake McGourty '99  
Aaron DeHaven '99  
Dan Garfinkel '00  
Jeff Borandi '00  
Chris Hilf '00  
Tom Ess '04  
Justin Kaszonyi '04

## 2004 ANNUAL FUND DONORS

|                           |                            |                          |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Jon M. Altbergs '93       | Martin L. Goldman '81      | James E. Reetz '46       |
| Philip M. Barnes '68      | David W. Graham '60        | James L. Rhinesmith '44  |
| Andrew J. Bohonak '91     | Christopher S. Haworth '91 | Robert Ricart '77        |
| Harry E. Bonner '56       | Matthew Hudson '91         | William D. Roberts '73   |
| Robert B. Bossler '49     | Kenneth J. Ignozzi '88     | James M. Robertson '67   |
| Norman R. Boughton '54    | Ralph L. Intorcio '51      | Paul A. Rockar '75       |
| Kristopher A. Boushie '83 | Matthew Jacobson '98       | Ray E. Sharretts '77     |
| Jonathan Breckenridge '83 | Frederick Johnson '62      | Steven M. Smith '69      |
| Eugene Chiappetta '62     | Robert J. Klein '53        | Jack L. Snitzer '82      |
| Carl B. Clark '00         | Greg C. Knepper '75        | William Stoeckert '67    |
| Roy A. Clark '78          | Mark M. Luellen '00        | Stephen Strumlok '43     |
| Mark G. Clarke '80        | Christopher D. Manuel '95  | Darrel J. Sutton '90     |
| Michael K. Cobb '86       | Michael McAuley '85        | Joel W. Swanson '82      |
| Robert P. Coury '82       | Robert N. McClung '67      | Gary C. Taylor '76       |
| Stanton E. Cull '60       | Dale H. Meyers '71         | Ronald E. Tranquilla '63 |
| Bruce W. Cushman '75      | George Mutschler '56       | Robert Turner '85        |
| William A. Degraw '61     | Allan T. Norris '81        | Daniel R. Van Aken '95   |
| Andrew W. Drake '92       | Philip Pappas '79          | David Veschi '98         |
| Harris B. Dreibelbis '49  | Richard H. Popeney '56     | John W. Waite '51        |
| Jeffrey C. Dolce '91      | James J. Puglisi '84       | Robert Walther '99       |
| Mark E. Fenner '99        | Thomas S. Purnell '87      | Frank Weinstock '55      |
| John M. Finley '72        | Dale J. Pysher '71         | Stephen A. Weirich '81   |
| Thomas A. Foreman '52     | Richard P. Ream '65        | William R. Wilson '75    |

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**RUN-OUT**  
January 22, noon

**BUILDING ASSOCIATION MEETING**  
January 22, 3:00 p.m.

## WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Use the enclosed card and return envelope to send us your latest news and updates.