



# The *B.O. Alumni Blast*

The Beta Omicron Alumni Chapter Newsletter of Pi Kappa Phi

Spring, 2000

## Time to Organize a Beta Omicron Alumni Chapter

By David Morgan  
Beta Omicron #173



"Those were the days," I thought as I recalled my days on the campus of NSU and as a member of

Pi Kappa Phi Fraternity Beta Omicron Chapter. I can truly say that my life changed for the better during my NSU days. My four years there set me on the right course for a very successful business career.

The brothers I knew of Beta Omicron had been in my thoughts for years, and it saddened me to learn Beta Omicron was no longer at NSU. I was very happy that on February 12 this year, 29 young men were initiated and the chapter was back at NSU.

During the past few years, I have become involved as a member of the NSU Alumni Board. Being back on campus has brought to mind those wonderful memories of my days on campus. I am proud to say that my oldest son enrolled at NSU in June, 1999 (just to *try* it), and met the same type of wonderful people that I did. It is with great pride and enthusiasm that I say he has chosen to be a part of the Beta Omicron rechartering.

It is time for us, the alumni, to formally organize a Beta Omicron Alumni Chapter. National requires at least 10 members from the same chapter to sign a petition and submit it along with \$50 to the national office. Alumni chapters must meet at least two times a year, sending in the  
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## Beta Omicron Chapter of Pi Kappa Phi Rises Again

By Wesley Breeden  
Vice Archon  
Beta Omicron #286

The Northwestern State University Associate Chapter of Pi Kappa Phi was conceived during the Spring semester of 1999 as "a joke" by a group of us calling ourselves "the pyros." Kyle Thomas, Todd Boddie, Chris Baker, and myself, Wesley Breeden, had developed a unique friendship the previous semester, and after evaluating bids from other fraternities we came up with an idea to start something that would



The "original four," the "pyros" who led rechartering efforts: (l-r) Chris Baker, Wesley Breeden, Todd Boddie, and Kyle Thomas

make a difference in the college world that surrounded us.



Historic February 12, 2000: twenty-nine new brothers and several alumni for the rechartered Beta Omicron Chapter of Pi Kappa Phi

We decided that the fraternities on the NSU campus didn't have enough to offer. During a late night dinner in one of Northwestern's cafeterias, we jokingly decided that we would simply start our own fraternity. At that time, we named ourselves "the pyros" just to call ourselves something.

The more we toyed with the idea, the more we realized that we might have stumbled upon something special. What started out as just a good laugh

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# Welcome Back Beta Omicron 2000



By David Morgan, Jr.  
Archon  
Beta Omicron #307

## New goals focus on recruitment, homecoming activities, scholarship, fraternity & fun

Brothers in Pi Kappa Phi,

Welcome back to Northwestern State University, and welcome back Beta Omicron chapter of Pi Kappa Phi. The year 2000 is truly a special year. This year, in all of its infancy, has been the best year of my life. On February 12, 2000, the Beta Omicron chapter was reissued its national charter and 29 men, myself included, were changed forever.

Following the chartering weekend, previously elected officers were installed: myself, Archon; Wes Breeden, Vice Archon; Robert Deramus, Treasurer; Josh Green, Secretary; Luke Hudnall, Historian; and Justin Hicks, Chaplain. It is an honor to serve with such dedicated and hard-working men. In accepting the position, I have accepted responsibility for the chapter's future. As all of you know, luck will not maximize the chapter's potential. The group must have a series of goals and a plan to accomplish each goal. During the first two weeks that I was in office, each Executive Council member wrote his goals for the chapter in relation to his position. After completing this task, Vice Archon Wes Breeden had the committee chairmen do the same. The result was a definite set of goals that the chapter deemed necessary to ensure long-term success.

With almost 30 members, Beta Omicron's area of concentration will be recruitment throughout the spring, summer, and fall rush. The Rush Committee, with help from the Executive Council and other chapter members, has devised a summer recruitment plan that is second to none. The state will be divided into four regions, each having a Regional Vice President responsible for recruiting five men to become

associate members during the fall semester. Our goal is to initiate 25 members into the chapter by the end of the fall semester. By doing this, Beta Omicron will further establish itself as Northwestern's leading fraternal organization.

This coming fall semester will be very busy, not only for active members, but also for you as well. Before each football game, we will have a tailgate party at the Pi Kapp tent on the practice field. A banquet and other activities are planned for homecoming weekend. Many of your alumni brothers' families have attended such events this past fall. Each alumni whom I had the privilege to speak with said that the trip(s) that they make back to Northwestern are invaluable now that Pi Kappa Phi is back on campus. At each chapter meeting following a football game, a minimum of 10 minutes was spent talking about the alumni that we had met Friday and Saturday. (The discussions, I might add, were unsolicited.) My brothers and I have gained insight and knowledge from each of you, and we encourage you to continue your trips to Northwestern.

Pi Kappa Phi is accomplishing things that no other fraternity is accomplishing on this campus, and will continue the same for the duration of my term. The members support the Executive Council 100 percent, thus giving the chapter the strong leadership it needs to excel. I urge each of you to attend all of our alumni events. Each weekend will remind you of the tremendous bond that you have with your brothers. Finally let me assure you that the Pi Kapps are here to stay. Long live Pi Kappa Phi and long live Beta Omicron! I look forward to meeting each of you.

### Organizing new chapter, from front page

meeting minutes to the national office as well as the dues. We now have the required members to send our application to National to become the Beta Omicron Alumni Chapter. Once the alumni chapter is formed, we will need to elect officers at our first meeting. The following officers need to be elected: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Chairman, Newsletter Chairman, Housing Chairman, Fund-Raising Chairman, Web Master, and Event Coordinator. If you have an interest in any of these positions or would like to recommend someone, please let me know.

You may ask yourself, "Why do we need to organize?" This is a good question, and I will try to answer it. Having close ties to the undergraduates is very important to the success of Beta Omicron. It has been proven time and again that a chapter with a functioning alumni organization is stronger in all aspects of a fraternity such as size, grade

average, campus leadership, and so on, than those with weak or non-existent alumni organizations. I believe the best reason to join an alumni chapter is to give back to the local chapter. Alumni often have financial resources to give the local chapter; however, they need more than money. Undergraduates need skills that only life experiences can give them. That is where the alumni chapter can help. Alumni in a wide variety of fields can help students with interviews, resumes, and other necessary skills to get into the job market. The best leaders in life are those who lead by example. An alumni chapter does this and more. It will provide a way for you to see brothers that you may not have seen in many years and give you the opportunity to share your memories of your days on campus.

I encourage each of you to join and become active (again) in our new Beta Omicron Alumni Chapter.

# Let's Build a Pi Kappa Phi House!



**By Michael Allain**  
*Alumni Housing Chairman  
& Chapter Financial Advisor  
Beta Omicron #197*

## **LET'S MEET AT THE PI KAPP HOUSE!**

Remember those words from your fraternity days? They rolled off the tongue without a second thought because we always had a house on Greek Hill at Northwestern. With the rebirth of Beta Omicron, we find ourselves as the **only** Greek organization on campus without a lodge or a live-in house. Our new brothers desperately need to establish an identity on the NSU campus other than wearing jerseys. Experience tells us that a house or a lodge is critical to the present and future health of the new Beta Omicron. As the Alumni Chapter of Beta Omicron, we must lead the expedition to locate a suitable dwelling, and we must make this our highest priority. Fall rush approaches and the other fraternities have the recruiting edge. In this article, we will discuss both short-term and long-term solutions to the problem.

"What happened to our old house?" you may ask. The best I can tell you at this time is that it reverted to the lender when the charter was revoked in 1982, or another possibility is that the University owned the building, and it was put into use by another Greek organization in the early 1980's, then moved up Greek Hill near the other Greek Lodges. Regardless of what happened to the house on the hill, we must examine other scenarios.

Let us begin by looking at the situation on campus at present. The only off-campus fraternity is Kappa Alpha. The Kappa Sigma house on Second Street burned down several years ago. They rebuilt in a very unique setting—on Chaplain's Lake next to Prather Coliseum. They now have the only live-in house on campus. There was talk by the University of making a Greek Row on Chaplain's Lake. This setting would be ideal for many reasons and would benefit both Greeks and the University in the long run. Any of you that have ever seen the Greek Row at LSU on the lake know how that segregation has assisted their Greek system in prosperity.

So, what do we do? A very interesting idea for housing came from the chapter at Texas Christian University in Fort Worth, Texas. We spoke to them at our re-charting in February. They have a dormitory set aside for their use. A Pi Kapp dorm allows them to have a wing of a dormitory with room to sleep 20-30 brothers and provides a recreation room for activities. David Morgan and I visited the chapter dorm at Texas Christian University on March 29 to get details. The biggest difference in the two schools is that all Greeks are housed on campus and all

are housed in dorms. If this can be worked out for Beta Omicron, it could be either a short-term or long-term solution. There are several unused dorms on the NSU campus, and we are currently speaking with school officials about the possibilities of East or West Caspari and others. The only stumbling block appears to be funding the necessary refurbishment of the dorm. We don't know how much it would cost, nor do we know if the university would assist in the funding.

In examining other short-term solutions, I spoke with Mike Hartman, Director of Pi Kapp Properties. He indicated that most chapters begin by forming a Housing Corporation. They would then locate a local property that could be leased by the Housing Corporation and rented to the chapter for an amount greater than the lease cost. The excess funds would then be applied to an account for future purchase of the leased property or for a down payment on a note to build a new house or lodge. Other methods of funding could include fundraisers by the chapter and the Alumni Chapter, and donations by members.

Mr. Hartman and I also met in Baton Rouge on April 6 regarding assistance in the development of a business plan for Beta Omicron housing. Pi Kappa Phi Properties does offer some alternative financing in the form of bridge loans in assisting with down payments or other financial shortfalls that may exist with the chapter and alumni funding efforts to acquire a house. This Infrastructure Loan Fund (ILF) is funded by a portion of each undergraduate's initiation fee, and may be used for various housing-related needs. He also provided us with a spreadsheet showing how the financing works with varying numbers of members living in a house.

Dr. Scott Roach, the Chapter Academic Coach, has been in contact with Dr. Randall Webb, President of NSU, to discuss the dorm situation as well as the Chaplain's Lake scenario. We have also enlisted the aid of a local real estate agent to locate a suitable house or lodge for lease by the fall semester. The Chaplain's Lake scenario appears ideal for all involved, but may be a more long-term solution. (Late breaking news indicates that the University may swap a desired parcel of land with the city in exchange for the utilities needed for building Greek housing on Chaplain's Lake. Scott says the chances of this happening are better than 75 percent. If so, the project to build could occur within one year!)

Later this summer I will be contacting you with cost estimates for housing and how the Alumni brothers can assist the Active brothers to achieve this housing goal. Please give me a call with any ideas, comments or concerns at 504-441-7143. We welcome your involvement. We miss your brotherhood and friendship.

# 1956-1962 Pi Kappa Phi Alumni Group Invades Campus for '99 & 2000 Rendezvous



Mike Murphy No. 5 presents a plaque from the Original Founding Members to Wesley Breedon No. 286, Rechartering Archon



Jack McCain Jr., No. 1 and Archon 1956, addresses the new brethren and alumni at the February 12 Rechartering Banquet



Wesley Breedon introduces the Pi Kappa Phi Rose, Virginia Dixon, a senior from Abbeville, La.



Holding the new gavel: (l-r) Wesley Breedon, Rechartering Archon currently Vice Archon, Spring 2000; Larry Keller, Pi Kappa Phi National Chartering Officer; Dr. Pat Figley, National President of Pi Kappa Phi; and David Morgan, Jr., No. 307, Archon, Spring 2000.

**By Mike Murphy**  
Beta Omicron #5

The NSU Homecoming weekend October 30, 1999, marked an historic time in the lives of 22 Pi Kappa Phi Alumni who arrived in Natchitoches for their third major re-union since the last of their group graduated in 1962. This particular group of Pi Kappa Phi alumni is comprised of collegiate generation years 1956-1962, which includes the original Charter Members of 1956 and those who pledged and attained membership as of their 1962 graduations.

The Ryder Inn was the reunion headquarters hotel, and Bill & Peggy Plunkett hosted an open house that entertained alumni, their spouses and significant others, student members of the campus chapter, faculty advisors and NSU Alumni Department faculty, and Natchitoches Mayor Joe Sampité, all who enjoyed getting acquainted and telling and re-telling the great stories of the transition years from Phi Kappa Nu local fraternity in 1955 to Pi Kappa Phi national fraternity in 1956, and as we continue now, in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

Of special interest to Beta Omicron's newest members and advisors of this Year 2000 was hearing the process of how the original chapter grew in numbers



(l-r) Rick Yates No. 176, Dr. Pat Figley, National President of Pi Kappa Phi, David Morgan No. 173

and matured in NSU campus leadership throughout their collegiate years. Even more gratifying is the fraternal friendships developed during their collegiate years that have continued or fostered themselves to renewed friendships and relationships 40 years later.

Many years ago the alumni group developed its roster of Pi Kapp Members No. 1 to No. 71. During the past couple of years this group has been able to reconnect the entire original membership through the efforts of their 12-member Steering Committee. Only five members seemingly have disappeared with no address locations, and 15 of the alumni are deceased.

Coordinators for our alumni group are Charles Bice (No. 8.), living in Winnfield, who is also the alumni liaison



(l-r) Mike Allain No. 197, Ruben Tweedy No. 188, and George Etheredge No. 180 at Alumni Rechartering

to the chapter on campus; Mike "Mickey" Murphy (No. 5), living in New Orleans; Jack McCain (No.1) and Bill Plunkett (No.3), both living in Natchitoches.

**Jack McCain, Archon 1956, presented remembrances** from the charter-years and presented love tokens to the "Roses" who attended the elegant banquet arranged at Merci Beaucoup Restaurant. Four undergraduate chapter members from NSU enchanted the group when they knelt and sang the "Rose of Pi Kappa Phi."

"Roses" in attendance:  
 Peggy (Kerr) Plunkett 1956-'57  
 Lois (Warner) Witt 1956-'57  
 Sylvia (George) Murphy 1957-'58  
 Sue (Weir) Rainer 1958-'59  
 Barbara (Dean) Cameron 1961 -'62

# Pi Kappa Phi National Provides Academic Assistance to Beta Omicron Chapters



By Dr. Scott Roach  
*Chapter Academic Coach  
Beta Omicron #210*

Pi Kappa Phi National has come a long way since our college days when it comes to providing various types of assistance to individual chapters and their members. I have become a part of this assistance package. National now selects and trains an Academic Coach for each of its chapters. My job as academic coach is to help associate members (pledges) and actives perform better in college.

Those involved must sign a contract with me in which they pledge to follow a simple set of rules that have been shown to improve grades. In consideration for following these rules, I meet with chapter members and work with them on strategies for getting better grades, balancing school with all of their other activities and interests, and I show them how to construct and use a Pi Kapp Planner

“Beta Omicron’s members have made quite a name for themselves . . . for reasons beyond their grades.”

calendar. For the fall semester of 1999, the chapter had the highest grade point average of any fraternity on campus. The guys seem to be off to a pretty good start academically.

Beta Omicron’s members have made quite a name for themselves with the administration on campus for reasons beyond their grades. They have strongly supported the less well-attended athletic events such as baseball, track and softball, winning the admiration of many of the coaches. Many of the guys have worked at numerous charitable and civic events both on campus and off bringing further credit to the chapter. The administration therefore views them as an excellent example of what a fraternity should be. Accomplishments like this can only help as the newly re-chartered chapter now turns its attention to the acquisition of a fraternity house.

## Honors Given to Pi Kappa Phi Alumni

### NSU’s “Long Purple Line” and the Business Department’s “Business Hall of Fame”

Robert Kelley (No. 17), Consultant, former Managing Partner - International Affairs, Andersen Worldwide

Karl Moore (No. 50), Chief Financial Officer - Europe, International Paper in Brussels, Belgium

David Morgan (No. 173), Founder and Chief Executive Officer, United Teacher Associates Insurance Company

## Supreme Chapter Meeting Information

The Supreme Chapter meeting will be held August 5-9 at the Coronado Springs Resort of Walt Disney World in Orlando, Florida. Several alumni are planning to attend. If you plan on attending this meeting, please call Mike Allain at 504-441-7143.

## The rechartering of PKP at NSU, from front page

became something very serious. Soon we took the idea to Reatha Cox, Greek Advisor for Northwestern. Mrs. Cox loved the idea of starting a new fraternity on campus, but said it would be difficult. We accepted the challenge and met afterwards at Chris Baker’s apartment to think of possible members.

The next Wednesday at 9:30 p.m. we and those interested in a new fraternity met at the big “N” on the Demon’s 50 yardline. Twenty-two “members” showed up that night, but after a week and a half of meetings running late into the night the group dwindled to 15. After the roster was set, these 15 members started petitioning for a national fraternity. Now being an interest group, we took the name “NYG,” meaning “Not Yet Greek.”

Within the next two weeks, 32 national fraternities contacted us and indicated interest in colonizing the group. The group narrowed down its possible choices to four. They contacted the four fraternities and waited for a reply, and results rapidly followed. The next day Jeff Esola replied from Pi Kappa Phi’s national headquarters. The following week Larry Keller and Jeffrey Pujals, leadership consultants from Pi Kappa Phi, visited the campus of Northwestern and

presented the fraternity to our small interest group. The NYGs were sold on Pi Kappa Phi, and the goal of chartering the Beta Omicron Association Chapter was born.

During the following several days the new Beta Omicron Associate Chapter of Pi Kappa Phi Fraternity set up recruiting booths and sought out new members for their organization. Eleven men decided to join the ranks of Pi Kappa Phi at that time.

Over the next year, these newly-found friends and brothers would battle and overcome the challenges and obstacles trying to obtain their ultimate goal of chartering. With 29 newly active members, we reached our goal on February 12, 2000, and received our charter from the national headquarters of Pi Kappa Phi. Without the help of friends, family, advisors, alumni, and hard working brothers, this goal would have never been reached. We triumphed and we celebrated the victory.

The Brothers of Beta Omicron would like to thank each of you who played an active role in helping us reach our goal. Without each of you, we wouldn’t be here today.

# The Beta Omicron Chapter Is Up and Running Again in 2000

## Please Help Us Find These Missing Beta Omicron Alumni

<b>B.O.# Name</b>	#91 Christos Docolas	#145 J. Roberts	#215 Russell K. Baker	#264 Randy L. Doyle
#6 L. Bell	#95 C. B. Brown	#146 K. P. Bailey	#216 Jack D. Daniel	#265 Henry W. Guin
#14 H. R. Gilliland	#98 H. R. Thompson	#153 L. E. Murray	#219 Michael A. Gill	#267 Moaveni Siamk
#19 Ronald Knott	#103 L. Dalton	#163 R. P. Burnette	#227 Joseph C. Nobles	#268 Derwin S. Bird
#25 B. Seiler	#110 T. W. Sandefur	#167 Earnest L. Hill	#228 John C. Walding	#269 John S. Law
#49 D. E. Jackson	#114 P. D. Jeansonne	#177 C. M. Mayard	#229 Artoun Baghranian	#270 Walter P. Fairbanks
#53 Robert W. Powell	#116 J. H. Baynard Jr	#178 F. Solis	#230 John S. Davis	#271 Marshall D. Laffitte
#62 John D. Mize	#119 J. C. Shaw	#179 D. G. Woodson	#235 Mohammad Tavakolian	#274 Allen T. Parker
#64 Larry J. Shook	#120 W. M. Hatcher	#186 David A. Rosenthal	#251 Thomas A. Verhalen	#276 Blake P. Chauvin
#73 Prince G. Gilcrease Jr.	#123 D.M. Myers	#199 Marshall T. Chevalier	#253 Johnny P. Harrison	#277 William K. Stevens
#75 James E. Spayberry Jr.	#128 Alexander R. Nobles	#200 Harrell Enis	#254 Col. Harvey A. Lyon	#278 Jose M. Chabin
#76 William H. Rutledge Jr.	#129 J. S. Slaton	#206 Howard H. Eggerton	#255 Tyrone L. Maxey	#283 Kenneth W. Bird
#83 D. W. Phipps	#134 O.R. Gibbs	#209 Bill O'Neal	#260 Neal H. Trent III	#284 Dennis H. Clarkston
#88 L. D. Bucknum	#135 R.O. Harvey	#211 Derl C. Adams	#263 Ricky Salley	#285 Phillip J. White

## List of Beta Omicron Members Available

Please send us your e-mail address and phone number. If you would like a list of Beta Omicron members, call or e-mail James Guidry at 850-322-4299, [guidry@magnet.fsu.edu](mailto:guidry@magnet.fsu.edu) or [jguidry@chem.fsu.edu](mailto:jguidry@chem.fsu.edu).

Many thanks to James Guidry who volunteered to be the Beta Omicron Alumni Chapter webmaster and manager for electronic communications, databases, and mailing lists.

## NSU Home Football Games

Sept. 2, 6 p.m. Southern University  
 Sept. 16 TBA (home or away)  
 Sept. 30, 6 p.m. Gardner-Webb  
 Oct. 7, 6 p.m. Troy State  
 Oct. 21, 2 p.m. McNeese -  
 HOMECOMING\*  
 Nov. 11, 2 p.m. Sam Houston

\*B.O. Alumni Meeting

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Pi Kappa Phi Fraternity  
 c/o David Morgan  
 3200 Fleece Flower Cove  
 Austin, TX 78735

