



The House Comes to HomeComing

A sight to savor as an overflow crowd of 100+ undergraduates, alumni, and their guests gathered together to dedicate the new chapter house for Texas Beta. Mike Bray (Tx. Beta '65) shared his pride before the group as the house was dedicated to the memory of William and Robert Whiteside. Cliff Watt (Tx Beta '64) reported on the successful donor campaign which outfitted the \$346,000 house while leaving less than \$96,000 on the mortgage.

The chapter has already reaped the benefit of the new house with the initiation of the largest group of new brothers in over 30 years. 15 out of 17 pledges were initiated in November bringing the total number of brothers to 30.

The house is catching a great deal of attention. The most recent issue of The Shield featured the story of Texas Beta and the efforts of Brian Carr (Tx Beta '78) to keep the dream alive. The chapter also received coverage in the Endowment Fund's publication Envision. To see the latest photos on the house and Homecoming go to www.texastechhipsi.org



Challenges Come with Success: What the Future Holds



Building the House was the easy part, building the men inside is the true challenge! With the chapter membership likely to push up towards 100 men in a very short time we must plan now for what is needed. At the recent House Corp and SPAA meeting a series of ideas were discussed as to what the next goals might be.

At the alumni level the goals identified were: (1) further expansion of the "Sustaining Brother" club, (2) develop a strong positive relationship in matters of the House with the undergraduate chapter, (3) Retirement of the remaining debt associated with the house and (4) Development of activities designed to increase alumni activities and involvement.

At the undergraduate level the goals identified were to (1) establish the "Mentor" program, (2) improve the scholarships available to the chapter and, (3) seek ways to support undergraduate participation in events such as the annual Cabo trip as well as shorter, less costly outings for all brothers.

Regarding the alumni goals the "Sustaining Brother" club membership stands at 67 and our 2004 goal is to increase this to 150. Brothers in this group pledge a \$100 annual contribution that goes to the House Corporation. This money is important to general operations of the House Corp and SPAA. The second goal of a good relationship with the chapter is well on its way with a signed agreement detailing responsibilities and benefits completed by each chapter member. The retirement of the mortgage is being worked on by our housing committee and we remain hopeful about this debt being removed in short order. Various alumni activities were discussed including organized vacation trips to a wide variety of locales, computer instruction for members using the resources of the house, and Founder's Day events.

The "Mentor" program for the undergraduates was given great emphasis by Cliff Watt. Alumni will be contacted by

we hope to best our record 82 guests record from 2003.

Date: Saturday, February 21, 2004
Place: Royal Oaks Country Club
7915 Greenville Ave, Dallas
Time: 6:00 Conversation Hour
Dinner 7:00 p.m.
Program: Cliff Watt, SPAA President
Griff Carnes, Chapter President
Price: \$40 per alumni/guest
\$20 per undergraduates
RSVP: **To Don Weldon, info below, by 2/14**

There will be a brother gathering on Saturday afternoon at Dave and Busters to watch Tech play against Texas A&M at 3 p.m. The location is 8021 Walnut Hill Lane, near Central Expy.

RSVP and mail checks to
Don Weldon
305 Bennett Road
Bristol, Texas 75119
(972) 846-9929
dweldon@azonemail.net

Give Us your Info

In the next few weeks you will be receiving a telephone call from an undergraduate member regarding a brief interview so that we might find out more about you.

We are striving to have a comprehensive data base of our membership so that our brotherhood knows one another and contact can be facilitated. The new "Mentor" program will need information about what you do and, if you give consent, you will be enrolled in our directory of older brothers who might visit with our chapter men and help them in career decisions and strategic planning. Don't you wish that someone had taken time to help you understand your career choices? This is the time to make that happen for our fine young men.

If you would prefer to fill out our on-line profile interview form you can go to the web site and do this there:

texastechpsi.org/profile.htm

House Still Needs Items

While the chapter house is very nice we still need some items. If you would like to sponsor or otherwise donate any of the following please contact Bill Killgore at (806) 797-3220 or killgores@compuserve.com

The Captain is about with a plot to grab a ship and sail south to Mexico. If you be pirates he wants to add you to his crew.

We need to know of everyone interest in the trip before specific plans can be developed. If you think there is even the slightest chance you might go then please let Brian Carr know at bha@wiredbrush.com or by submitting the Cabo form on the web site.

Middle to late June has been suggested but the dates remain open until we hear from everyone. This is a trip like no other. Just look over the photos on the web site and we know you'll want to sign up.

New Officers

New officers of both the South Plains Alumni Association and the Texas Beta House Corporation were elected at the January meeting. Serving for those groups are:

South Plains Alumni Association

- *Cliff Watt, President
- *Jay Kinnison, President Elect
- *Bill Killgore, Treasurer
- *David Jones, Secretary
- *Brian Carr, Correspondent

Texas Beta House Corporation

- *Cliff Watt, Chairman
- *Dustin Nicholson, Vice-Chairman
- *Jay Kinnison, Vice-Chairman
- *Bill Killgore, Treasurer
- *David Jones, Secretary

Other Board Members

- *Frank Bray
- *Griff Carnes
- *Brian Carr
- *Brian Murry
- *David Norman
- *Tom Pitts
- *Jim Ratliff
- *Don Weldon



ROI Alumni Program

The "ROI" (return on investment) program is designed to offer continuing education of value to undergraduates and alumni of the chapter utilizing our advanced computer lab. There is no registration cost but seating is limited to first come first serve. These workshops will involve hands-on instruction introducing the needed skills as well as handouts for continued study. Come and learn more about your electronics. Call or Email Brian at 806 795-3911 or bha@wiredbrush.com

Topic: Digital Cameras and Camcorders: Shooting (and Printing) like an Expert!

Date: Saturday January 31, 2004

Location: Texas Beta Chapter House Computer Library