



INSIDE POLITICS WITH BETA ETAS



LEFT: Dan and Aimee Berger. CENTER: Clarke Cooper at the U.N. RIGHT: Steve Gunderson, Former House Speaker Newt Gingrich and Jonathan Stevens.

The *Beta Eta Data* recently caught up with three chapter alumni who are currently involved with the federal government in different capacities. Dan Berger '88, Clarke Cooper '90, and Jonathan Stevens '92 each serve in positions that impact U.S. policies. Brother Berger has been listed as one of the 30 most influential lobbyists in Washington, D.C., Brother Cooper now represents the U.S. as a delegate to the United Nations after serving as the Legislative Affairs Advisor for the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad, while Brother Stevens has enjoyed a meteoric rise as Policy Director for a Republican think tank. We spoke with each about their perspectives of working within the Capital Beltway.

What is your current position?

DB: I am currently the Senior Vice President for Government Affairs for a national trade association called the National Association of Federal Credit Unions based in the Washington, DC area. I oversee 5 divisions within my department and manage two-dozen people and a \$2 million budget. In addition, I am an Adjunct Professor at George Washington University in Washington, DC, teaching Political Communications.

CC: I was recently promoted to Management Reform Counselor from Chief of Staff for the U.S. Mission to the United Nations (USUN). As the USUN Management Reform Counselor, I serve as a senior advocate for the implementation of transparency and accountability measures at the United Nations and UN associated funds and programs such as the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the UN Development Program (UNDP). Part of my job includes budgetary watch dog duties such as justification and monitoring of U.S. contributions to the U.N. As a Delegate to the U.N. General Assembly 5th Committee, I work with US and foreign colleagues to review and recommend the U.N.'s bi-annual budget.

JS: Currently I am the Director of Bertelsmann Foundation North America Projects on Health, Education, and Demographic Change. I oversee all of their North American operations regarding issues related to Health Care, Education, and Demographic Shifts in our society. Previous to this I was the Policy Director for the Republican Main Street Partnership, the Centrist Republican think-tank based here in Washington, DC.

How did you get started in DC?

CC: The summer after my senior year at FSU, I served as an unpaid intern for Representative Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL). By the end of the summer, the congresswoman hired me as her Legislative Correspondent. Representative Ros-Lehtinen, who is now the most senior Republican on the House Foreign Affairs Committee (HFAC), has remained a professional contact and reference throughout my career.

JS: I was moving to Washington, DC and planning on taking a position with a big consulting firm when I met Rose DiNapoli, VP of Government Relations for Sallie Mae.

She heard about my quantitative skills and asked me to become her numbers guy in the GIR division; in return she taught me all that I know about the political process. I was placed in the company of some of the smartest and most experienced Washingtonians I could have hoped for - former high ranking Hill staffers, White House personnel, and well known and respected lobbyists.

DB: I was asked by then-Secretary of State Katherine Harris (whose congressional campaign I had advised) who had won her congressional race to come up to Washington, DC to be her first Chief of Staff.

How difficult is it for someone from outside of the Beltway to get started here in DC?

JS: It won't be easy, but it is far from impossible. Normally, you must start on the Hill in a very junior position, no matter your education credentials. From there you can move up to Legislative Assistant, Press Secretary, or even Chief of Staff. At any point along the way you can take your skills and contacts to the private sector, usually to a position parallel or slightly below to what you held in government, again working their way up. The payoff can be

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BETA ETA DATA

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NOTES

PRINTING ASSISTANCE REQUESTED:

Printing costs for the *Beta Eta Data* represent the Alumni Chapter's single largest expense. If you would like to assist by offering a direct or in kind gift of printing, please contact Tom Atwood at (800) 929-1906 or tatwood@pikapp.org

NAMES: The number after each name in this newsletter represents the year of initiation.

EDITOR'S NOTE: The BHAC apologizes for the delay in this publication. We realize some of the alumni updates in this newsletter were provided last fall.

NEW WEBSITE: Check out the BHAC's new website, www.BetaEta.com, for information on your Alumni Chapter. Please send us your feedback, too!

CHAPTER ETERNAL: The following brothers were reported to the National Fraternity as having passed to the Chapter Eternal since the last publication:

William Douglas Myers '50
Richard Thomas Wohlfarth '61
Louis Korb '93
Thomas E. Taylor '50

The Beta Eta Alumni Chapter mourns with the family and friends of these recently departed brothers.

THE NEXT ISSUE...

The next issue of the *Beta Eta Data* will feature a recap of the 2008 Annual Meeting as well as additional details regarding the fall colonization of the student chapter.

EXPANSION NEWS

Helping Our Future Brothers Succeed

In this fourth installment of our series of articles discussing how the Beta Eta Chapter will be reactivated, we discuss the role alumni can play during the expansion and with the new group.

As discussed in the last issue, the student members of the Beta Eta associate chapter (AC) must meet certain standards to re-gain the Beta Eta charter (held in escrow by the National Fraternity) in order to become a fully recognized chapter of Pi Kappa Phi. As discussed below, alumni advisors and Beta Eta alumni can play important roles in assisting both the National staff during the expansion and the student chapter to re-gain the charter.

EXPANSION

Alumni generally do not play a major role in most expansions because there are few organized groups of alumni. The Beta Eta Alumni Chapter (BHAC), however, provides a unique resource that the National Fraternity staff can utilize to recruit high quality men. The BHAC leadership has been exploring how Beta Eta alumni can assist with the expansion efforts, specifically, by demonstrating the strength of our chapter's alumni to recruits. Understandably, the expansion effort is run by the National staff and our efforts are merely intended to compliment their work. Thus far, we've been discussing the following ways to help:

1. **Provide leads of potential student members.** All of our alumni should consider whether they know of any quality men who are currently enrolled at FSU or will be matriculating next year and forward these candidates to the BHAC so that we can forward these leads to the staff.

2. **Attend an expansion event.** The BHAC anticipates 1-2 expansion events that Beta Eta alumni can attend to express their support for the new group and demonstrate their lifelong commitment to brotherhood. The BHAC will be communicating these opportunities to all alumni once plans have been determined.

3. **Provide financial assistance.** Surprisingly, staff-led expansions succeed on a shoestring budget. A great majority of this budget is spent towards housing the staff in a location close to campus. The second largest financial expense is advertising, including running ads in the campus paper. We've been discussing creative ways to provide targeted financial assistance that could enable the staff to increase its advertising and/or event budget. The three proposals being most discussed at this time include:

a. **Rush Scholarship.** The BHAC, with strong support from **Tom Hogle '57** and **Frank Kaney '55**, are looking to use the Jim Nettles Memorial Scholarship for 2008 as a rush scholarship that could be used to target incoming freshmen men. "I cannot think of a better way to honor Jim than to use the scholarship fund created in his name to help re-build Beta Eta into a dominant chapter once again," remarked Brother Kaney.

b. **Alumni sponsored event.** The BHAC is exploring ways it can assist the expansion effort by hosting an expansion event that may not fit within the staff's limited expansion budget. For example, the alumni of the University of Missouri provided a private box at a St. Louis Cardinals game for the expansion staff to host their top recruits. We will be investigating such opportunities and welcome any suggested ideas if you have them.

c. **Staff housing.** The largest expenditure for the National staff is providing housing for the staff near campus. In situations where the staff has avoided this expense, they have been able to use these funds for additional marketing materials and events. If you are in a position to provide housing that is within walking distance to campus, please see below.

POST-EXPANSION & PRE-CHARTER

National staff and alumni advisors play an important role in assisting the student AC to meet the chartering standards. Having active advisors working in different capacities and serving as mentors to students is a crucial piece in Pi Kappa Phi's efforts to build leading chapters and to develop and prepare our students for life after college. The AC will receive at least two national consultant visits each semester. The focus of these visits will be developing chapter programs and recruitment.

The Board of Alumni Advisors (BOAA) also provides valuable counsel and training. The BOAA is a volunteer organization, led by the Chapter Advisor, comprised of alumni who work with Beta Eta student chapter members. These advisors work hand-in-hand with the student members, teaching them the proper fundamentals for new member education, chapter operations, brotherhood development, etc.

As discussed, the expansion process and road to chartering naturally requires the commitment of the National staff and students. Having the support and commitment from Beta Eta alumni, however, can truly distinguish the future student chapter from other expansion groups. If you are interested in serving in any of the above capacities, please contact **BHAC President Michael Loy** at 703-346-0336 or at fsupikappalumni@yahoo.com.

A Homecoming to Remember



Homecoming 2007, aptly themed “An Encounter to Remember”, served as the backdrop to many memorable Beta Eta moments during four days of events which reunited brothers, spouses, and guests from across the country.

Early arrivals to Tallahassee enjoyed the annual “Early Bird” dinner hosted by BHAC Board Member, **Chuck Cutajar '62** at Nino’s Restaurant. Following the parade on Friday, Beta Etas reconvened at the Silver Slipper where over forty alumni and guests were on hand for one of the chapter’s signature alumni events. This year, guests were treated to a special presentation when Chuck Cutajar assisted the National Fraternity in the presentation of **Roger Randolph’s '57** Golden Legion Certificate, commemorating fifty years of membership in Pi Kappa Phi.

LEFT: Andrea and Chris Ryle '93 visit with Chris Muller '92 and Karrie Pettit. MIDDLE: Roger Randolph (L) receives his Golden Legion Certificate from Chuck Cutajar (R). RIGHT: Jeff Niedenthal and his fiancé, Sonia Liedeman, visit with Glenn Mayne '61 at Nino's.

On Saturday morning, several alumni attended the Annual Meeting of the Beta Eta Housing Corporation, held at the ‘Bueller House’ on Jackson Bluff Rd. During the meeting, a brief presentation was made by BHAC Secretary **Jeff Niedenthal '67** regarding the activities of the Alumni Chapter. Officer elections were held and there was discussion regarding the status of the current lease with Alpha Epsilon Pi (which expires in May 2009) and the plans to re-colonize the student chapter next fall.

For additional information regarding the Housing Corporation, contact **Chris Mueller, President**, at (813) 748-8032.

Alumni Events Reunite Brothers and Friends



Events sponsored by the BHAC in Orlando, Jacksonville, and Atlanta reunite Beta Eta’s across generations and remind attendees of the importance of “fraternity.”

At different points last fall, Beta Eta alumni reconnected with one another through events sponsored by the BHAC and organized by the Alumni Chapter’s network of local volunteers. These events, ranging from game viewing parties to cocktail receptions, served an important purpose in fulfilling the BHAC’s mission to connect Beta Eta alumni to each other and to their fraternity in a meaningful way.

On Friday, September 28th, over thirty chapter alumni and guests, who traveled into Jacksonville, FL, ahead of the FSU vs. Alabama game, gathered at Sneakers Sports Grille for a pre-game reception hosted by **Ed Tunstall '61**.

Later in the semester, Atlanta Event Coordinator, **Scott Middlebrooks '93**, played host to a game viewing party at the Blue Olive in Marietta, GA, last November when the Seminoles traveled to Blacksburg, VA, to play the Virginia Tech Hokies. As in the past, Middlebrooks’ event brought alumni from the 1960’s together with fellow brothers from the 1990’s.



TOP LEFT: Jim Newman '59, Derby Ulloa '64, Chuck MacMillin '62 and Ed Tunstall visit during the reception in Jacksonville. MIDDLE LEFT: Alumni pose for a photo in Jacksonville. BOTTOM LEFT: Mike St. Louis, Christal Feldman, Adam Feldman, Phil McCully '91 and Jennifer McCully visit during the reception in Orlando. RIGHT: Despite a loss to the Hokies, alumni had a great time in Atlanta. Pictured L to R are: Vernon Khail '66, Joe Chao '66, Chris Ricci '93, Travis Olson '92, Nick Marotta '92, Bob Rivers '61, Brad Cottrill '94 and Scott Middlebrooks.



Lastly, the BHAC’s Orlando Event Committee, held a cocktail reception on the evening of October 28th for area alumni at the home of **Hugo deBeaubien '68**. Brothers **Mike St. Louis '91**, **Frank Kaney '55**, and **Adam Feldman '92** also played key roles in driving attendance to the event.

ALUMNI UPDATES

Gerry DOBSON '54

Since leaving Tallahassee in Fall 1963, Gerry has taught Chemistry at a number of institutions including the University Georgia, University of South Dakota and the University of North Texas, having retired from the latter as a Regents Professor in 1999. While at South Dakota, Gerry recruited fellow Beta Eta alumnus Bob Jernigan '61 to work on his Ph.D. with him. Married to Kay Tauscher, whom he met at the Beta Eta Early Weekend Club (Thursdays at 11 p.m.), they now celebrate forty-four years of marriage, three sons and seven grandchildren. Gerry and Kay enjoy singing karaoke at a local bar and currently reside in Lake Dallas, TX. wivern@centurytel.net

Brick MASON '58

Brick recently caught up with friends and fraternity brothers at Glen Mayne and Ken Rouse's annual mullet fry during an early weekend in October. In the photo (L) to (R) are Jim Newman '56, Chuck MacMillin '62, Brick Mason and Jay Newman '61. Brick and Martha Mason live in Santa Rosa Beach, FL. brickmartha@yahoo.com



Mike O'DAIR '64

Mike and his wife, Amy, live in Monument, CO and recently spent time with chapter brothers Paul Nichols '64, Dave Stoddard '64, and Marv Bass '64 during Florida State's recent visit to Colorado.



Mike is a Vice President | Wealth Management Advisor with Merrill Lynch. mike_odair@ml.com

Chris NEW '76

Chris sold the Bainbridge, Georgia Sears Dealership back to Sears in July 2006. He is currently a Controller/Treasurer for Stone's, Inc - a regional hardware/building supply chain headquartered in Southwest Georgia. Chris' wife, Randi, is the Curriculum Coordinator for the Decatur County School System. The News have a full household that includes three daughters - Caroline (13), Sarah Ann (11), and Emily (10) - as well as a horse, show pig, three dogs and a rabbit. Chris would love to hear from any Beta Eta brothers from the mid to late 1970's. cdnew@bellsouth.net

Marshall ATKINSON '84

After serving as the Art Director for T-Formation for 14 years, Marshall was promoted to Vice President - Operations in April 2007. His duties now include supervising the Art, Embroidery, Production, Shipping & Receiving Departments and over 100 employees. T-Formation has been ranked as the tenth largest t-shirt company in the United States for the last two years (based on volume). Marshall still lives in Tallahassee, FL with his wife, Jody, and son, Jack. matkinson@tformation.com

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tremendous and the salaries and level of responsibility can reach meteoric levels, but it takes time, a ton of effort, and a willingness to integrate your personal and professional life. But before you come, be ready to commit an enormous amount of time and energy outside of an already long work day at building your contacts and exposure.

DB: It is truly a who-you-know town. Even for an entry-level job like Staff Assistant or Legislative Correspondent, it is helpful to have a connection to a member of Congress or someone in the Administration. This is usually done by being a constituent (or your parents being a constituent or contributor), a campaign volunteer, or an intern.

CC: Washington is a city of aggressive, assertive, and ambitious people who all tend to seek a purpose filled life and career. The most successful Washingtonians use a combination of what they know and who they know. Being a subject matter expert or technocrat is not enough to succeed "inside the beltway." One needs to bolster their knowledge and skill set with a network of contacts and those who can open doors.

Has the atmosphere changed, if any, since the Democrats took control of the Congress in 2006?

DB: Politically nothing has changed for us. As financial services lobbyists, we have to operate in a bi-partisan manner, so nothing in that regard has changed. I employ several lobbyists, Democrats and Republicans, some with House experience and others with Senate or White House credentials. As for policy, the Congress has become much more consumer oriented.

CC: After a decade of being in the minority, Democrat leadership was faced with the challenge of proving how they would differ from the Republican controlled Congress. Without a real mandate or mission, the Democrats have failed to deliver anything unique. Republicans returning to the minority increased their focus on policy principals as well as parliamentary procedure to ensure the new majority would not upturn Bush Administration priorities such as domestic tax relief or take short sighted actions like premature withdrawal from Afghanistan and Iraq.

JS: There haven't been dramatic changes since Democrats took control of both legislative houses in 2006, but anyone who thought there would be doesn't understand politics. Change occurs here in Washington, when it occurs at all, gradually, over time, and with great sacrifice and compromise. You must remember that even the most partisan Members of Congress represent districts with a diverse constituency. When I heard that Nancy Pelosi is regularly protested in her San Francisco District for being too conservative, and that there are pundits who thought Tom Delay during his heyday was too liberal, I began to better understand and appreciate the wide range of instructions with which lawmakers are forced to work.

The mass media and political candidates often state that the U.S. has isolated itself from its allies due to the Iraq War. Do you agree?

JS: No. In fact I would argue the opposite. Just as we have here, every country has a variety of factions, some of whom support the war, and others who oppose it; each to varying degrees. I think it depends on who's in power at the time. Australia is a prime example. I am reminded of this every time I travel internationally and I am pulled aside by someone in countries from Norway and Nicaragua that to tell me how they see us as playing a necessary role in the world, but

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KANEY JOINS BHAC BOARD, WAHLEN STEPS DOWN

Judge Frank Kaney '55 has been named a member of the Board of Directors for the Alumni Chapter. Brother Kaney accepted the Board's invitation to fill the vacancy created on the Board when Eric Wahlen '85 stepped down from the Board due to career demands. "We are very excited to have Frank join our Board," said BHAC President Michael Loy. "Frank has been involved with our organization from its early stages and he has demonstrated strong leadership with our Orlando Committee. We are lucky to have him."

The Board also recognizes the significant contributions provided by past-Secretary Eric Wahlen and thanks him for his dedicated service. "Eric has been with us since Day One and it was difficult to hear that his schedule did not permit him to continue serving on our Board," added Brother Loy. "He personifies the mission of this organization and he was instrumental to our early success."



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one that no one else has the will (or the ability) to play. Of course our technique could be considered suspect, but I doubt neither our intentions nor our goals globally.

DB: It hasn't helped but is exaggerated by many in the media.

CC: No. This is a naïve and often partisan based assessment. Relationships with our allies are not static and require continuous re-evaluation and new approaches. U.S. presence in Iraq is supported by a UN Security Council mandate for Multi-National Force Iraq (MNF-I). Like all Security Council mandates, the MNF-I mandate is renewed annually on a consensus basis. This includes consensus from all 15 Security Council members, even France and Russia.

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ALUMNI UPDATES

Brian JUNGLING '84

The Harris Hotel Group, LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of the American Hotel Development Partners, recently named Brian as its new Vice President of Operations. In addition to developing the support systems for the management company, Brian will be tasked with successfully opening and operating the 14 hotels currently in AHDP's development pipeline. jaxinnville@yahoo.com

Thomas DESJARDINS '87

After graduation in 1991, Thomas spent the better part of the next decade teaching elementary and middle school in Punta Gorda, FL. After completing his M.Ed. in School Administration, and upon meeting his wife Kathryn, they decided to move back to their native state of MA. Thomas is an elementary school Principal in Salem. Kathryn is a tenured special needs public school teacher in Danvers, Massachusetts. Thomas has two children from his first marriage, Megan (12) and Thomas Wade (10) and hopes to start a new family with Kathryn very soon. He regrets losing touch with his pledge brothers from the Lambda class and hopes to reconnect with them soon. thomasdesjardins@hotmail.com

Steve COOK '90



Steve is the Vice President of Marketing and Communications for the Dallas Symphony Orchestra. He is also doing some public speaking on marketing and leadership. He recently caught up with fellow Pi Kappas [pictured above left to right], Jimmy White, Jeff Hannekan, [Steve] and Chris Keller. Steve and his wife, Monica, just celebrated their second wedding anniversary. scookwiz@aol.com

George COTTO '90

George Cotto is a Regional Vice President for Wachovia Trust. George serves as the Fiduciary Risk Consultant for Wachovia Trust employees on legal and investment matters. His territory covers Florida, Georgia, Alabama, Texas, Cayman Islands and California. George is married to Diana (also a FSU grad). They have 6 children and reside in Ponte Vedra, FL. georgecotto@yahoo.com

Michael LOY '91



Michael and Nil Loy recently celebrated the birth of their first child. Their daughter, Jordan Kiana Loy, was born on July 26, 2007. Mike and his family live in Potomac, MD. mnloy@comcast.net

Ryan HAY '92

Ryan and Kelly Hay announce the birth of their daughter, Mia Alexandra Hay, born on September 3rd. The Hay family lives in West Palm Beach, FL. ryan.hay@hp.com

ALUMNI UPDATES

Brian BENNETT '93

Brian and Stacy Bennett currently live in Fort Myers, FL. Last May, Brian, Mark King '90, and Greg Jones '91 caught up with Coach Bobby Bowden during his "2007 Bowden Tour." Brian and Greg are also co-chairs of a charity Texas Hold 'em poker tournament to benefit Ronald McDonald House. The 160-player tournament will be held on March 29, 2008, and will feature the Florida State Alumni Club versus the University of Florida's Club. They hope to raise over \$20,000 for this worthy cause.

Brian.Bennett@swflseminoles.com



Gene HENRIE '93

Gene is an Executive Recruiter with the Target Corporation in Minneapolis, MN. Following graduation, Gene earned his Master's Degree in Higher Education Administration from Florida State, then later an MBA from the University of Tampa. Gene, his wife, Allison, and their daughter, Grace, live in Albertville, MN.

Gene.Henrie@target.com

Scott MIDDLEBROOKS '93

Scott and Mary Middlebrooks are the proud parents to a new little girl named Camryn (Cammie) Leigh Middlebrooks. Born on February 12, 2007, and now just about 9 months old, she is healthy and growing fast. Her favorite past times are chasing the dog, pulling out books & CDs off the shelf, sticking her hand in her mouth, and testing her new found "outdoor" voice. The Middlebrooks family currently lives in Woodstock, GA.

smiddlebrooks@simmons.com



Mike OAKMAN '93

Mike and Tanya Oakman proudly announce the birth of their daughter, Ashley, who was born in March 1, 2007. Ashley joins brothers Zachary (5) and AJ (2) as the newest addition to the Oakman family. They currently live in Ponte Vedra Beach.

mtoakman@earthlink.net

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Do you feel there exists a dichotomy between what you know is going on in DC and what the rest of the country understands to be happening?

DB: I believe the average American would be shocked to learn how young the people are that are actually running our federal government. Congressional staffers and folks in the Administration are usually intelligent, hardworking, underpaid public servants. But man, are they young or I'm just getting old. This is also true in state government.

CC: Yes. Up until this current election cycle, many Americans tended to not follow or engage in the development or execution of public policy. The more citizens involve themselves, the more public opinion can shape public policy. Many citizens, however, have abdicated their public duty to vote and monitor the activities of the executive agencies, the legislative branch or the judiciary. It is embarrassing how ill informed some Americans are about America. As members of a representative democracy, Americans have the right and privilege to be engaged in the election and policy processes.

You all have current or former ties to lobbying. In light of the scandals involving Jack Abramoff and Norman Hsu, do you often find yourselves in positions where decisions must be made to stay on the correct side of a delicate, and sometimes blurry, ethical line?

JS: It's not that hard. If it doesn't pass the smell test, if you couldn't explain your actions to your grandmother in 5 minutes or less without getting smacked at the end of your speech, don't do it! That said, the rules governing lobbying and the code of conduct when interacting with members of government have gotten so complex that common sense is not enough. An entire profession of ethics experts, often but not always lawyers, has been created to sort all of this out. That to me signals too much complexity, and as is the case with tax law, the more arcane the regulation, the more loopholes that will be designed specifically to traverse these regulations.

DB: No. If there is a grey area, just don't do it. Then the line is very clear.

CC: There are no blurry lines when dealing with ethics. There is clear guidance for U.S. officials on the parameters of what constitutes legal and ethical behavior. If one questions potential actions as ethical, there is a protocol to make an informed decision. I always remind my colleagues, "When in doubt, check it out." Those who chose to not follow the set legal and ethics guidance discount their public responsibility. In fact, one of my mandates is to advance the implementation of an ethics office, oversight practices and whistleblower protections at the United Nations.

What are the positive aspects of lobbying?

CC: Lobbying is an opportunity for individuals or entities to make their voice heard to the policy and law makers. Technically, any citizen can lobby on any topic. One does not have to be associated with some large firm to represent a viewpoint or advocate a position.

JS: As a lobbyist, I gave a voice to a group whose efforts I myself (hopefully) agreed with. While at Sallie Mae I got to see a company that is vilified in the press but whose goals and mission I found to be quite in line with the American dream.

DB: As a bumper-sticker that was once given to me said: "Don't tell my parents I'm a lobbyist, they think I'm a piano-player in a whorehouse." My profession gets dinged on occasion but like most

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professions, the vast majority of lobbyists are hardworking honorable men and women and every once in awhile a bad-actor taints us. The best part of lobbying is dealing with people and strategy. Lobbying has a ton of moving parts and is truly a chess match where one must think several moves ahead of your opponent(s). This puts you in the middle of a political and legislative battle, and the best strategic thinker usually wins. (Jokingly) Of course there is some travel to interesting destinations, restaurants and golf courses.

What is the federal government's current relationship with the UN? Has this relationship changed since Ambassador John Bolton was replaced? How is the UN viewed in DC?

JS: The opinion of the UN will depend completely on the person you are asking. And though it does break a little more clearly along party lines, it too cannot be seen as a Democrat or Republican led issue. While at the UN, Ambassador Bolton injected a level of accountability and pragmatism into the body; for better and for worse. I won't say that our relationship with the UN has improved, it could be described as being more cordial. However, cordial doesn't always equal effective and the merits of each need to be weighed against the other.

CC: The U.S. relationship with the UN is multi-faceted since we operate in a multi-lateral environment. Many in the executive and legislative branches view the UN Security Council as a necessary peace keeping body in need of reform to better address issues of a post-Cold War and post-9-11 world. There is also domestic pressure for management reform of the UN institution, funds and programs. Recent cases of corruption and reported misbehavior have put the oversight spotlight on the application of U.S. voluntary and assessed contributions to the UN. Regardless of party affiliation, law makers and policy makers want to see U.S. interests advanced and defiantly do not want to see U.S. funds go towards positions counter to our interests.

Some UN observers believe U.S. presence at the UN may have superficially improved with the arrival of current U.S. Ambassador Zalmay Khalilzad. A naturalized American born in Afghanistan, Ambassador Khalilzad has the personality and demeanor recognizable to many non-western and or third world diplomats. U.S. policy and position has not changed after Ambassador Bolton's departure. Heads of government and foreign ministers set foreign policy. Ambassadors to the UN usually have province over tactics and execution of a position, but not development of a position.

How has your fraternity experience prepared you for this profession?

DB: My fraternal experience was helpful because it showed how important it is to be able to operate in a diverse environment like our Brotherhood. Politics is based on people and getting them to move in the same direction. Just like in a fraternity.

CC: Active membership in Pi Kappa Phi was a great hands-on training ground for working within organizations with diverse interests focused on a common mission. Similar to my military training, the fraternity engendered a positive environment for team building.

JS: Fraternity life gave me the skills and fluency with people that are essential in Washington. Growing up simply, in a small town, with limited exposure to government or strictures of power outside of my textbooks and my TV, the variety expressed by my brothers taught me to not only tolerate, but appreciate a difference in opinion. ■

ALUMNI UPDATES

Aaron WILHELM '93

Aaron and Suzie Wilhelm happily announce the birth of their son, Jackson Henry Wilhelm, born on July 17th. Aaron is a manager with Netzwerk Producer Management and the singer/songwriter he is currently managing, Shotgun Honeymoon, had its debut album, Foregone Conclusion, released on September 11th through Broken Halo Records and is currently available nationwide through iTunes. www.shotgunhoneymoon.com. Aaron, Suzie and clan live in Van Nuys, CA. zedbass@hotmail.com

Chris DOWNS '94



Chris Downs '94 and Brad Lewis '93 traveled to Colorado for the Seminole victory over the Buffalos. Chris was glad to make it back in time from a deployment to the mid-east where he was an Intelligence Watch Officer to the

Joint Personnel Recovery Center. Brad took the opportunity for a Seminole Weekend before he and his wife Stacy start preparing for their first baby due in March. Chris is stationed with the Air Force in Tucson, where he was recently appointed Chapter Advisor to the University of Arizona's Beta Theta Chapter. Brad lives in Tampa, where he is a divisional controller for Catalina Marketing Corporation. usafsmnole@aol.com

Jeremy KISSEL '97

Having recently begun working as the Legal Advisor to the Chief of the Federal Communication's Media Bureau in Washington, DC, Jeremy is involved in the development and administration of regulatory policy affecting cable television, broadcast television, and radio throughout the United States. He currently resides in Rockville, MD. jeremy.kissel@gmail.com

Nate ADAMS '98

Nate and Julie Adams are pleased to announce the birth of their second daughter, Madelyn Alyssa Adams, born on May 19th. Nate, Julie, Abigail, and Madelyn currently live in Lakeland, FL. fsuadams@msn.com

Greg SIEMAN '98

Greg recently received a promotion and has left his role with Bank of America's Business Banking Marketing Team to join the bank's merger team with LaSalle Bank. He will help build the brand of Bank of America in Chicago while integrating multiple marketing platforms into a more streamlined process. Greg will continue to live in Charlotte, NC but will also spend considerable time in Chicago working on the merger. gsieman@hotmail.com

John QUAST '03

John graduated last May with his Master's Degree in Higher Education Administration and has recently moved to Washington, DC where he now works for American University. johnquast@gmail.com

The mission of the Beta Eta Alumni Chapter is to enhance the lifelong fraternal experience for Beta Eta alumni by maintaining an active alumni group that is dedicated to connecting alumni with each other and to their fraternity by providing timely communication of relevant news and organizing meaningful events. This group shall promote the ideals of the Pi Kappa Phi Fraternity as expressed in our Ritual of Initiation and Supreme Laws and encourage Beta Eta alumni to renew their lifetime pledge to the brotherhood of this fraternity.

BETA ETA ALUMNI CHAPTER, INC.
ANNUAL MEETING • JACKSONVILLE
MORE INFO AT WWW.BETAETA.COM
APRIL 19 2008

Beta Eta Alumni Chapter, Inc.
P.O. Box 11244
Tallahassee, FL 32302-3244



REMEMBER 40 YEARS AGO

The Little Sisters of Beta Eta were an important part of the chapter experience. Assisting in rush and the chapter's recruitment efforts, the ladies of Beta Eta added a sense of charm and decorum to the chapter. Some little sisters went on to become future wives of members of the chapter. Little sisters were presented a red rose, the flower of Pi Kappa Phi, at their initiation. Circa 1968.

Photo Courtesy of the National Fraternity Archive

