



# beta button

Beta Chapter of Theta Chi Fraternity at MIT • Winter 2011–2012

## ΘΧ alumni weekend



### Friday, April 27

- **6:00 p.m.** – Dinner at Crossroads
- **8:00 p.m.** – “Dealer’s Choice” poker

### Saturday, April 28

- **10:00 a.m.** – Meet at the house for alumni-active softball
- **5:30 p.m.** – Alumni corporation annual meeting
- **7:00 p.m.** – Cocktail hour and house tours
- **8:00 p.m.** – Join us for our catered semiformal dinner
- **9:00 p.m.** – Stick around for stories, songs, and shenanigans

### Sunday, April 29

- **11:00 a.m.** – Meet for brunch at S&S Restaurant

All are welcome! Events are free for brothers and guests, but please be sure to register.

For more details and to sign up, visit our website at <http://ox.mit.edu/alumni/weekend>

**Alumni Chair:** Leo Tampkins '13, [leot@mit.edu](mailto:leot@mit.edu) or (909) 238-2119

<http://ox.mit.edu>

## Beta welcomes Grand Chapter to Boston

Near the beginning of our fall term, after a very successful rush, we were paid a visit by our fraternity’s board of directors, better known to some as the Grand Chapter. The eight alumni volunteers of the Grand Chapter, along with alumni from other chapters across the states, spent the evening of September 17 with brothers of Beta Chapter. In matching “stop signs” the undergraduate brothers served light refreshments, exchanged stories with the alumni, and gave alumni tours around the newly renovated house. House Treasurer Krishna Esteva stated that “it was nice seeing some familiar faces and new Beta alums as well.” We were all enthusiastic about meeting alumni from other chapters. Many active brothers remember being entertained by Joe D’Amone’s hilarious stories; we appreciated the good sense of humor of the other alums as well.

The highlight of the tours was definitely the new roof deck. Quite a few Beta Chapter alumni became deeply nostalgic, explaining how they watched the Fourth of July Boston Pops event from that same spot many years ago. Other alumni were deeply awed by the spectacular view of the Cambridge skyline and the Charles River. Impressed, Grand Chapter President Douglas M. Allen (Delta Beta '90) said that the only thing missing was a few rocking chairs.

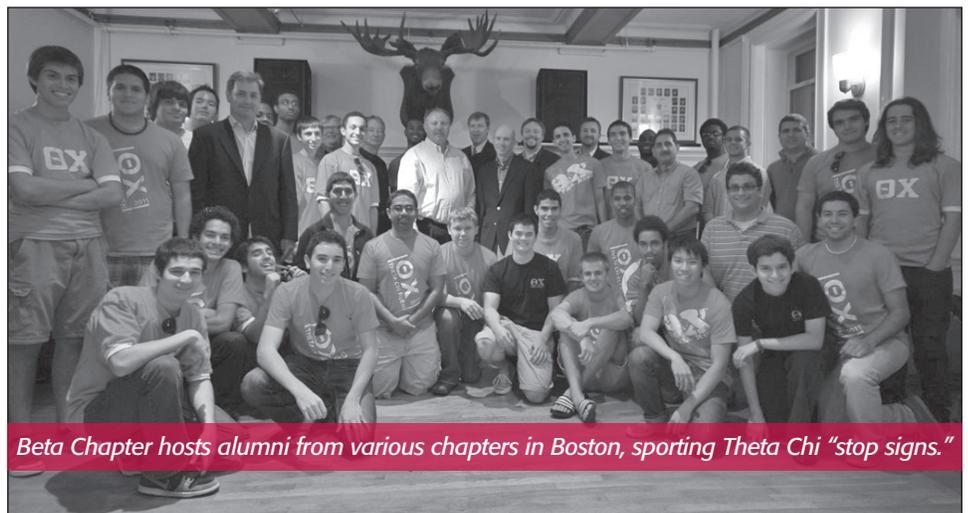
While touring the house or sitting in the library, alumni discussed how the house had changed or shared details about the

traditions at other houses. One memorable alum, Brother Bill Palmer from UCLA, compared in detail his experiences as a Theta Chi undergraduate to ours. Surprisingly, we found out that many houses shared common traditions and rushing customs. For example, our end-of-rush steak and lobster dinner seemed to be a custom in other houses as well.

Many photos—candid and not-so-candid—were taken by the chapter’s current historian, amateur photographer Jared Katz. The last photo taken was a comical picture of the entire current brotherhood wearing red Theta Chi sunglasses, which were leftovers from the fall rush. Alums from other chapters, including members of the Grand Chapter, stated that they had always wanted to visit the oldest active chapter; they had nothing but praise for the chapter and the house. I know I am not the only undergraduate brother who agreed with our chapter president when he stated that “we were glad to have them over, and we welcome more visits in the future.”

I personally look forward to having such a meeting again to demonstrate that Beta Chapter is a prime example of the values and virtues of the Theta Chi Brotherhood, in hopes that our chapter will be able to continue exceeding expectations. Maybe, just maybe, we will have those rocking chairs the next time around.

Leo Tampkins '13



Beta Chapter hosts alumni from various chapters in Boston, sporting Theta Chi “stop signs.”

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## Brother Ojeda shares chapter's accomplishments

I can't believe the fall term has already ended, the holidays are over, and the spring semester has begun. As brothers finished their final exams this past fall, I could see the joy of traveling home transcend all else. They all deserved it because of their hard work, late nights, and dedicated studying. Many of them continued their devotion to learning by taking classes over IAP or doing research in a lab over break. Regardless of what they did, I was excited to return to Boston in February to hear about their work and to begin my last term as an undergraduate brother of Theta Chi.

As things begin to settle down, it's great to reflect on the many memories we've shared as a brotherhood. Krishna Esteva '13 and Geoff Dawson '13 organized a very successful recruitment this year, which resulted in nine new members. Our new members have already demonstrated enthusiasm and commitment to our fraternity. We even have a few prospects for spring rush, and we hope to forge bonds with the incoming class during Campus Preview Weekend. I'm happy to say that our recruitment appears to be more organized, fun, and rewarding than ever before; I am looking forward to another great pledge class next year.

Another great memory was our Vice President Retreat, organized by Rodrigo Munoz '13. This retreat took place at the house and involved fun activities as well as constructive

discussions about recruitment and improving our brotherhood. These retreats are very important in bringing us closer together and helping us learn how to enhance the quality of life in the house. Having gone through several Vice President Retreats, I can confidently say that many of the discussions have led to changes to our bylaws, policies, and even attitudes in a positive way.

To celebrate the holidays, several brothers attended a holiday mixer and participated in traditional gift giving at the house. Also, Community Service Chair Adrian Clarke '13 brought home tags from the MIT Giving Tree so our brothers could buy and wrap presents for underprivileged children. During these times, it's great to see brothers serving our community, knowing that they are making a difference in people's lives. We are looking forward to continuing our service this term and making measurable improvements to our community.

In addition to serving our community, we have also made progress in our mission to improve the house. Our renovations campaign for the house has been going strong, and the results are very noticeable. By collecting pledges and donations, we have been able to greatly improve the physical house in ways that have elevated our standard of living. In a demonstration of our appreciation and commitment to the house, we have donated to the campaign ourselves. In fact,

we were able to achieve 100 percent participation from our active brothers, an achievement we are very proud to announce.

Recently, we had our elections and have been in a state of leadership transition. I'm happy to announce that our newly elected president is former Vice President and Risk Manager Rodrigo Munoz '13, who has demonstrated great responsibility, organization, and a strong commitment to the happiness and well-being of our brotherhood. The other positions are filled with brothers who are enthusiastic to serve our fraternity, including myself as the new community service chair. As we all assume our responsibilities for this term, we are depending on the guidance and leadership of Rodrigo and our new executive board.

With all of these memories and more, I can confidently say that I am privileged to be a part of this great brotherhood. I am proud to see ambitious brothers stepping up to tough leadership positions and willing to serve our community in new ways. I feel honored to have served as chapter president and hope to continue inspiring others in their new roles. I honestly can't imagine where I'd be without the support of this brotherhood, but I know it couldn't be better than where I am now.

Love and respect your brothers,  
Steven Ojeda '12

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## Excited new member reflects on his first semester with Beta

Much like all the other freshmen out there, I came to MIT not knowing what to expect from the people and social environment. The first weeks away from home weren't exactly what I would call "an easy adjustment" for me, as I had basically left all of my friends and family behind and moved to a new city where I didn't know anyone. After settling in and participating in orientation and REX activities, there was one week left before the beginning of classes. Before coming to campus, I had thought that this week's sole purpose was that getting accustomed to the way things work before classes. Turns out, I hadn't known about the one orientation activity that eventually resulted in the best decision I've made since coming to MIT.

I soon figured out that this interim week was reserved for rush. Seeing white vans all around campus, I was not initially inclined to participate in rush; I'd had no intention

to join a fraternity before arriving at MIT. I had to admit, however, that I was curious. Finally, I decided I had nothing to lose by exploring Greek life. While I didn't really enjoy the first few places I visited, I eventually ended up at Theta Chi. The first thing I noticed was the genuine and inviting atmosphere of the house and the brothers themselves. Immediately, I wanted to return for the other events. I quickly realized that I enjoyed every minute I spent in the house with this small group of truly awesome guys.

Since pledging, I've been reminded time and again that becoming a member of this fraternity was one of the best decisions I've made since coming to Boston. Starting with the Marshal program, we slowly got a glimpse of what fraternity life is and what it means to be a brother at Theta Chi, and we were able to quickly get acquainted with one another. Extremely fun events

like the Maine retreat were, to put it very simply, nothing short of memorable. As the semester progressed, events at the house and around town allowed us to get to know one another better and became fun escapes from classes and the infamous "water hose." As we approached the end of the semester, the Theta Chi semiformal allowed us to experience a unique shift in our routines and clearly demonstrated the brothers' willingness to participate in both informal outings and elegant soirees.

All in all, my first semester as a freshman at MIT was rendered even more memorable by the fact that I decided to become a member of this extraordinary fraternity. With my awesome 2015 pledge-class brothers, I am sure that more amazing stories and unforgettable memories will fill the remainder of these four years, if not the rest of all our lives.

Haldun Anil '15

# Please welcome the newest members of Theta Chi

## Andrew Moran

I am currently a sophomore studying electrical engineering and computer science at MIT. I'm from a small town in South New Jersey, and I grew up near the beach; I enjoy doing outside activities such as basketball, cross-country running, and golf. My interest in computers came from all the fun I had playing video games and watching movies in the past. In my free time, I also like to chill in Boston with my friends and play cards or board games. In the near future, I wish to work at a software company that will improve my interest and experience in graphical user interfaces and programming. Eventually, I plan to earn a doctorate.

## Toks Fifo

I'm from Silver Spring, Maryland, and Nigeria; I was actually born in Washington, D.C., but grew up partly in Nigeria. I'm a sophomore studying mechanical engineering; my main interest is in the field of robotics. I hope to start my own company in the future in this field. As for free time, I enjoy whooping people in FIFA, playing soccer, watching TV, whooping people in fantasy football, watching movies, whooping people in ... well you get the point. I'm also pretty chill, and I enjoy getting to know new people.

## Vlad Kontsevoi

I'm a sophomore from Evanston, Illinois. Originally from Russia, I've been enjoying local delicacies like pizza and hamburgers since before I could walk. I am studying

mathematics and computer science and am interested in quantitative trading and HFT. Outside of classes and Theta Chi, I am involved in Traders@MIT, an organization that frequently hosts educational events with various trading firms, hedge funds, and investment banks. In my spare time, you can find me sleeping, playing guitar, or hanging out with friends.

## Alessandro Lira

I come all the way from the snowy land of Minnesota. Being an authentic Minnesotan, I play hockey and have been playing my entire life. I also enjoy playing soccer. My academic interests include mechanical and aerospace engineering, since I love finding out how things work and creating mechanical contraptions (like things that fly). I am a handyman and love power tools, which might also explain the affinity towards mechanical engineering. I am hoping to become an engineer and work either on cars or airplanes; I hope I'll pay off my student loans, but I'm not sure this last dream will ever become a reality.

## Axel Martinez

(Pretty cool name, huh?) I'm from Wesley Chapel, Florida, which is a city that is just north of Tampa. I'm really chill. Stuff I like to do in my free time includes soccer, rock climbing, video games, and wooing girls (I wasn't sure this was appropriate, but it's true!). I'm really interested in physics, which is why I'm majoring in Course 8. I am considering a double-major in Course 6.

## Ari Vogel

I am part of the class of 2015. I am from Los Angeles, California, and I plan on majoring in 6-3 (computer science and engineering). In my free time, I enjoy playing classical piano. I have played for about 12 years and practice whenever I get the chance. I also like hanging out with friends, just sitting around listening to music, and talking.

## Haldun Anil

(Or "Hal," for short!) I'm from Istanbul, Turkey, and am currently a freshman in the class of 2015. I'm thinking of majoring in Courses 14 and 15. In my spare time, I like to read up on economics, politics, and what's happening around the world. I also really enjoy music and am currently very into practicing my disc jockey skills. Hope to meet you all soon!

## Jose Burgos

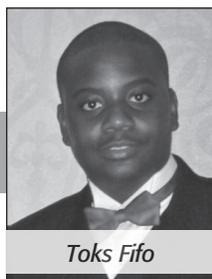
Prior to MIT, I lived in Columbus, Indiana; prior to that I lived in Michigan and Ohio. I plan to study materials science and engineering. I am an Eagle Scout, and I enjoy activities such as biking, hiking, backpacking, canoeing, and rowing for crew.

## Daniel Bulhosa

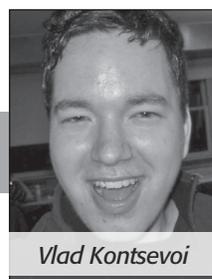
I was born in Caracas, Venezuela, and moved to Oberlin, Ohio, at age 13. I am majoring in physics and mathematics; my dream is to become a theoretical physicist and live on the West Coast, near the beach (or travel there frequently). In my free time, I like to listen to and play music, work out, play sports, and hang out with friends.



Andrew Moran



Toks Fifo



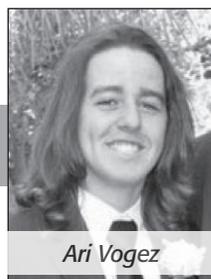
Vlad Kontsevoi



Alessandro Lira



Axel Martinez



Ari Vogez



Haldun Anil



Jose Burgos

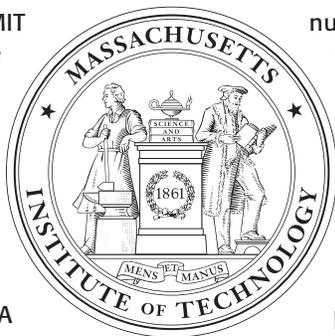


Daniel Bulhosa

# Join us June 8, 2012, for Reunion open house at 528

All brothers returning to MIT for their Reunions in 2012 are invited and encouraged to visit 528 Beacon Street for the Reunion open house, on Friday, June 8, 2012, from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.

This occasion affords returning alumni a chance to relax and see the renovations to the house first hand. A



number of the actives who will be living in the house over the summer, plus a number of the alumni corporation officers, will be available to meet people. To take a page from our Delta Upsilon neighbors on Beacon Street, the parents of graduating

seniors are also invited to visit. As always, local alumni are especially encouraged to attend.

We hope to see as many brothers as possible on Friday afternoon, June 8. You can expect a warm welcome from all of us.

## RSVP Information

If you are sure you are coming, please RSVP by emailing [thetachi@mit.edu](mailto:thetachi@mit.edu).

## Theta Chi to celebrate 110th anniversary this coming fall *Save the date: October 12–14, 2012*

Along with many other life skills learned at 528 Beacon Street, we Theta Chis have learned how to enjoy a good party. Back in 2002, our 100th anniversary celebration exceeded all expectations when hundreds of brothers and significant others returned for a fabulous weekend. Now it's time to do it again! The date is set for October 12–14, 2012.

In order to properly celebrate Theta Chi's 110th year at MIT, and Beta Chapter's 90th year at 528 Beacon, we need your help. First, please add the date to your calendar. Email if you are planning to attend or have any questions: [thetachi@mit.edu](mailto:thetachi@mit.edu).

A committee is just now forming to organize the events. The last time, Mike

Phillips '89 took the lead in organizing, and Rick Gander '65 took on a major history project. We will need a few more men like them this time around. If you can help (and especially if you are local!), please email us at [thetachi@mit.edu](mailto:thetachi@mit.edu).

Brothers who have not been back to MIT for a while will be impressed by the new buildings on campus; MIT is now one of the main biotech and brain research centers of the world. In fact, one of our own, Jim Poitras '61, and his wife, Pat, have founded a major clinical and research center within MIT's McGovern Institute for Brain Research. During the celebration, there should be ample opportunities to see some of the new MIT as well as the old.

At the 100th celebration in 2002, the majority

of the organizing committee did not have the presence of mind to realize this occasion presented a fundraising opportunity for some desperately needed repairs to 528 Beacon Street. It took several years to get the repair efforts going, but now the house is in far, far better shape than a decade ago. By October 2012, the very last of the renovations—to the kitchen area—will be complete. All that remains is to repay a modest construction loan. Many thanks to the brothers (more than 200!) who have helped.

We are hoping all of you can come back for the 110th to see the progress we've made for yourselves, meet the current actives, and say hello to old friends. We want to see you in a picture like that on left (taken on the second floor, looking back toward the library and Back Street). A number of actives are looking over memorabilia at and celebrating the rededication of 528 Beacon. Your picture is now on at least one of the composites lining the stairways, like those you see in the photo on the left.



Brothers return to 528 Beacon St.

## Final phase of upgrades includes \$50K in kitchen renovations

The final phase of upgrades to the Theta Chi House is planned for this summer, with a complete renovation of the commercial kitchen in the basement. This work is necessary to clean up and improve the old kitchen and meet current health department requirements. A new stove, exhaust hood, fire protection system, freezer, and lighting fixtures were already installed this past year. Work planned for the upcoming summer will greatly improve the kitchen layout with additional counter space and storage. The work is estimated to cost

about \$50,000 and includes the following:

- Removal of old tables, shelving, cabinetry, wall surfaces, plumbing, and electrical fixtures.
- Installation of new rough-electrical, GFI outlets, and additional circuits to new and existing appliances.
- Installation of new rough-plumbing for a space-saving hand sink, along with water lines and a drain.
- New three-compartment stainless-steel commercial sink with faucets and a new garbage disposal.
- New grease trap and plumbing.
- Replacement of existing floor drain.
- All-new base and wall cabinetry.
- New pantry shelving.
- New solid-surface countertops and a backsplash.
- New trash compactor.
- New polished stainless-steel backsplash behind the stove.
- Repair of existing floor tile.
- Repainting of walls, ceiling, ducts, and pipes with high-quality washable paints.

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# Life at 528: What was it like?

## *Beta of Theta Chi recollections across the years*

### **I am ...**

Dave Summa, and I was at Theta Chi from 1977 until 1981.

### **Most Vivid Memory**

The "End of the World" party, April 1979. The situation was grim:

- Three Mile Island accident had just occurred;
- China had invaded Vietnam and the war had begun;
- Massachusetts drinking age was changing from 18 to 20;
- U.S. Embassy in Iran had been sacked and hostages had been taken.

So we decided to have a total low-moon blowout. It was a costume party, and Doug Wegner '79 came as the Grim Reaper. Chris Zirps '80 made about 10 posters and put them up all around the first and second floors of the house—Armageddon humor as only Zirpo-witz could deliver. We invited Nu Delta (then a new house, totally geeked out) and they paid for half. We had a punk band and cash bar. There must have been 200 people there. It was the very best party I think we had.

### **The House**

The Cavern was a double, with Terry's Head painted in psychedelic colors, Hendrick's style. No one remembers how or who painted it. The third floor had a beer machine that worked. One year, Drew Blakeman '80 used the hall closet overlooking the front stairwell as his room (he actually chose it in the draft). Large rooms had two beds, two brothers, a whippie desk, and a dresser. Small rooms had one brother, a whippie desk, and a dresser.

The fourth floor was the same. Center hall was open and had the treasurer's office. It was also the location of the phone. There were only two phones in the house, one on the first floor and one on the fourth floor. One year, Sandy Wilgus '80 put a phone in 4LF, and it caused a revolution; everyone had to have one!

The fifth-floor had 5L, 5M, and 5S. The ward was not heated; there were vents to the roof and windows that did not shut all the way. The ward was about 40 degrees at night in the winter. Brothers slept in red bunks. Alarm clocks started going off at 5:30 a.m. for lightweight crew, and continued sounding all the way to 10:00 a.m. for slackers. The roof was sometimes a driving range for Ned Emerson '81, Doug Wegner,

and others who aimed at the Charles River, but often fell short on Storrow Drive.

There were also apartments the house rented during this time. The apartments had three or four brothers each, and no whippies in them.

There wasn't a staff, or outside help. The corporation was dormant at the time.

### **Maintaining the House**

The house manger was often a two-person position and was a serious job. We always had competent housemen. The summer cleanup was largely cosmetic, lasting from Sunday through the Friday morning before the start of rush. Several tons of paint were added to the house over my four years there. Usually, there was one special project during summer cleanup that tackled structural work.

In January, the freshmen workweek occurred before the start of the second term. Those were heavy, long days for the whippies. Usually there was one large project that the whippies tackled, helped by housemen and the occasional real craftsman. For example, the freshmen rebuilt the bar one year, stripped all the floors and revarnished the first and second floors, put in a bike room in the basement, and worked on the sub-basement.

### **Meal Arrangements**

Monday through Thursday, breakfast, lunch, and dinner were prepared by brothers. Hired by the EmSup (Employee Supervisor), our brother "cooks" were paid like McDonald's, say \$5 for a breakfast, \$7 for lunch, and \$10 for dinner. Orders were called down for breakfast by the waiter (also a brother, but not a paid job). Lunches were served at noon and ended promptly at 1:00 p.m. Peanut butter and jelly sandwiches were always on the sideboard. Dinners were served at 6:00 p.m. sharp (or else!) and again at 7:30 p.m. for the jocks. The steward (who was elected each term and paid) made menus, ordered food, and put it all away! Dinners always started with the "head of the table" calling on someone to say grace, which the brother dutifully did: "Grace." One time Gary Smith '80 sang

grace to a stunned audience and received a well-deserved standing ovation. The dining room had five tables, each seating six.

On Fridays, we did not serve dinner. Sundays, we had a large meal at noon, but no dinner. This was the BIG meal, real meat and potatoes stuff.

### **Alternate Meal Arrangements**

Pizza from Crossroads was popular. Also, there were lots of places in Kenmore Square. Guys usually rotated places. A popular place was Father's on Sunday. They had 10-cent hot dogs and dollar pitchers. We really loved that place. It got the very first arcade games: Pong, Asteroids, Pac-Man, and a football game that was a huge hit. Lots of guys would

go to the North End or Commonwealth Pier; the No Name always drew a group on Friday nights.

We initiated Wednesday-night ice cream parties as a study break at 10:00 p.m., which brought the women from Boston University in droves. Steve's Ice Cream was huge (Cambridge), as was Emack & Bolio's on Newberry Street.

### **Rules**

Rules? Rules? What rules? I remember only one: Do not hit on the girlfriend of a brother. No exceptions. There were no quiet hours, and someone was always pulling an all-nighter.

### **Activities**

Rowing. Lots of heavyweights and lightweights. Squash, tennis, and hockey drew several Theta Chi men. One or two were in track, sailing, etc. Everyone played intramurals. It was mandatory to play hockey, and there were always good teams for basketball and football. A-league teams were far between.

### **Dating**

We met women from Simmons College and Boston University, especially from the dorms right around the corner from our house and on Bay State Road. In 1979 and '80, we did a big road trip to Mt. Holyoke to meet women. John Helferich '79 met his

(continued on page seven)

# Thank you, Theta Chi brothers, for your generosity!

Fundraising for the first major renovation of the house began three years ago. In spite of tough economic times, the 225 brothers listed below have donated well over \$500,000 towards the renovation. Some, noted in boldface, have donated multiple times. We also have had very high participation from the pledge classes of the late '50s and early '60s. This is a heartwarming result, and other classes are challenged to do as well. The capital campaign will continue until the mortgage is retired. So, especially for those who haven't

yet had the chance to donate, additional donations are very much needed to pay off the construction loan. We hope this can be done by Beta Chapter's 110th anniversary celebration in October 2012. Giving instructions can be found under "Resources" on the website at <http://ox.mit.edu/alumni/>. To all those who have contributed, thank you, once again.

Jim Poitras '61, John Helferich '79,  
Ross Runnion '04, Bob Ferrara '67, and Chet Riley '62

## CAMPAIGN DONORS

*The names of brothers who have donated more than once appear in bold.*

Gerald Tattersfield '21  
(in memoriam)  
John Gray '40  
(in memoriam)  
Carl Mueller '41  
**Alfred Heckel '44**  
**Jim Phillips '44**  
Chris Boland '45  
(in memoriam)  
**Richard Ballman '46**  
R Fried '46  
Weston Goodnow '46  
**William Rapoport '46**  
**Alden West '47**  
**Benjamin Dann '48**  
Robert Murray '48  
**Benjamin Cowley '49**  
Robert Hinrichs '49  
**Kenneth Prytherch '49**  
**Richard Price '50**  
**Richard Waldt '50**  
Thomas Biggs '51  
Richard Davis '51  
**Will Freeman '51**  
William Shenkle '51  
Hank Spaulding '51  
Robert Danforth '52  
Dana Mayo '52  
**Edward Ort '52**  
Dirk Plummer '52  
**Sidney Hess '53**  
John Hsia '53  
Stanford Amstutz '55  
Alan Friot '55  
**Edward Boggs '56**  
James Hamblet '56  
**Richard Jacobs '56**  
**Gordon Bell '57**  
**William Brady '57**  
**Allen Burgess '57**  
Nelson Disco '57  
**Len Glaeser '57**  
Alvin Richman '57  
Daniel Anderson '58  
William Bayer '58  
**Arthur Bergles '58**

**David Bold '58**  
**Robert Hazan '58**  
Harold Linder '58  
**Francisco San Miguel '58**  
**Earl Smiddy '58**  
John Deryck '59  
Edmund Drake '59  
**Willard Johnson '59**  
**Arthur Nintzel '59**  
**Jonathan Weisbuch '59**  
**Theodore Ansbacher '60**  
**Norman Kneissler '60**  
**Raymond Laub '60**  
**Robert McClatchey '60**  
Joseph Patalive '60  
David Richardson '60  
**Dean Webber '60**  
**Wesley Allen '61**  
James Poitras '61  
Otto Robinson '61  
Larry Schindler '61  
**Robert Brady '62**  
**James Lambert '62**  
**Chester Riley '62**  
John Rollwagen '62  
William Taylor '62  
**Frank Ansuini '63**  
John Greaat '63  
**William Jessiman '63**  
**Lou Thompson '63**  
**Monte Giles '64**  
Cary Mock '64  
**Sandy Blanchard '65**  
**Terry Chin '65**  
**David Dewan '65**  
**Frederick Gander '65**  
John Proctor '65  
Gary Rose '65  
Philip Smith '65  
Bruce Zotter '65  
**Thomas Franzel '66**  
**Oakey Mertz '66**  
**Bob Ferrara '67**  
**Raymond Ferrara '67**  
**David Kress '67**  
Ben Park '67

**Peter Bradish '68**  
**Win Gardner '68**  
**Larry Preston '68**  
**John Byrnes '69**  
**James Gallagher '69**  
Bruce Glabe '69  
**Daniel Anderson '70**  
Bill Ebeling '70  
Thomas Moebus '70  
John Stempeck '70  
Dale Geiger '71  
Joe Runkle '71  
**Michael Safonov '71**  
**Michael Callaham '72**  
Jay Mackro '72  
John Sawyer '72  
Sam Stroud '72  
**Ilkka Suvanto '72**  
**Clare Billing '73**  
**Nicholas De Cristofaro '73**  
Cheolsu Shin '73  
**Rene Haas '74**  
Al Williams '74  
Richard Mclaughry '75  
Noel Spishak '75  
Mark Keough '76  
**Frank Ruiz '76**  
**Frank Sauk '77**  
Paul Bayless '78  
**Richard Bryant '79**  
John Helferich '79  
**Hank Rappaport '79**  
James Thompson '79  
**Charles Albright '80**  
Drew Blakeman '80  
**Mark Lehrer '80**  
**Gary Smith '80**  
**Gregory Wilson '80**  
James Flatt '81  
**Robert Hance '81**  
David Summa '81  
Edward Heinle '82  
Alan Hollenbeck '82  
**James Murray '82**  
**Dennis Nash '82**  
Alan Ringen '82

**Keith Ashelin '83**  
**Robert Frank '83**  
James Keith '83  
**David Keselica '83**  
Eric Weaver '83  
**Owen Clements '84**  
Peter Rutherford '84  
Clark Custer '85  
Scott Drane '85  
**Charles Lane '85**  
Andrew Weiss '85  
Brian Strauss '86  
**Timothy Mchenry '87**  
Daniel Money '87  
Mark Traudt '87  
**Steven Margossian '88**  
**Steven Schondorf '88**  
**Alexander Chenvainu '90**  
**David Emero '90**  
**David Auerbach '91**  
**John Piscitello '91**  
Dan Zimmer '91  
Scot Cook '92  
**David Rich '92**  
**Ben Weintraub '92**  
**Gregory Agami '93**  
Donald Cho '93  
**Carl Hunermund '93**  
James Titus '93  
Sean Walsh '93  
**Nathaniel Bogan '94**  
David Frohman '95  
Jason Deich '96  
Jason Kreisberg '99  
William Johnston '00  
Philip Juang '00  
**Morris Tao '00**  
Steve Lim '01  
Dustin Berkovitz '02  
Matthew Lahaie '02  
David Lobosco '02  
Gregory Mahowald '02  
**Mark Tompkins '02**  
Andrew Gregg '04  
James Rotchford '04  
Ross Runnion '04

Oneil Bhalala '05  
Michael Francis '06  
Patrick Hart '06  
Adam Kaczmarek '06  
Tejus Kothari '06  
Patrick Maher '06  
Kenneth Schrock '06  
Evan Karlik '07  
Jonathan Stritar '07  
Jordan Wan '07  
**David Baumgartner '08**  
Grant Hofmeister '08  
Jay Turner '08  
Ryan Andrews '10  
Jacob Albritton '12  
John Busche '12  
Ade Esho '12  
Steven Ojeda '12  
Vinay Ramasesh '12  
Ken Schumacher '12  
Adrian Clarke '13  
Geoff Dawson '13  
Michael Desanker '13  
Krishna Esteva '13  
Will Gaviria '13  
Carlos Greaves '13  
Vladislav Kontsevoi '13  
Jeffrey Lin '13  
Franco Montalvo '13  
Paul Muir '13  
Rodrigo Muñoz '13  
Adrian Orozco '13  
Leo Tampkins '13  
Toks Fifo '14  
Jared Katz '14  
Jeffrey Lin '14  
Andrew Moran '14  
Preston Thompson '14  
Haldun Anil '15  
Daniel Bulhosa '15  
Jose Burgos '15  
Alessandro Lira '15  
Axel Martinez '15  
Ari Vogel '15

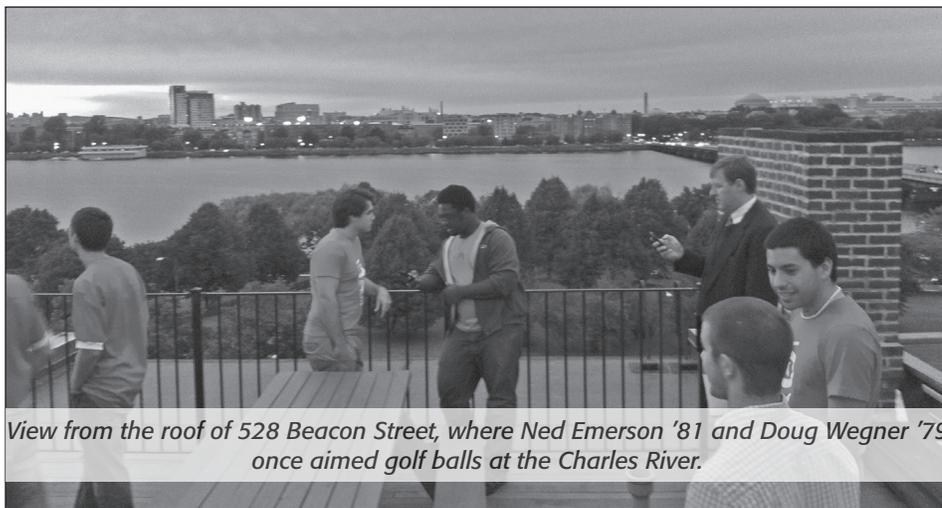
## New member reviews his first year

I pledged Theta Chi as a freshman during the spring semester, so I ended up waiting until the fall semester of my sophomore year to go through the pledge training program and initiation. This year ended up being my first time on the other side of rush and initiation. I got to see how things worked behind the scenes, but I also found that a lot of sweat went into the whole rush process. There were many awesome events this year; we had paintball, a trip to Six Flags, F1 racing, a steak and lobster dinner, midnight snacks, and many others. A lot of work went

into preparing and maintaining our house, but in the end, it turned out very well.

Initiation took place the weekend before Thanksgiving. We had our dinner and other fun games on Saturday. Sunday culminated with the initiation ceremony and was followed by celebration and relaxation, and maybe a little bit of work to catch up on time lost over the weekend. It was a great success, and we ended up with nine new brothers of whom we are all very proud.

Michael Desanker '13



View from the roof of 528 Beacon Street, where Ned Emerson '81 and Doug Wegner '79 once aimed golf balls at the Charles River.

## Life at 528, cont.

(continued from page five)

wife there. Several guys dated women from there, taking the Peter Pan bus for dates!

### Social

Once or twice a term, there was a band party. The rest of the time we had a disc jockey. Open bars and cash bars were equally common. I remember that Theta Chi had the highest GPA on campus, and nearly the highest per person social budget. We made money on events and spent it all on more events! Ned Emerson and I were social chairmen for four of our eight terms together. We created a money-making operation at the end of our run.

The Don't Kill the Dog, End of the World, the Fresh-Junior Versus Soph-Senior, and many more ... unforgettable events.

The FIJI Island Party was always awesome. They hosted that every other year. They bussed us to some place, which was decked-out as an island. Hulas, leis,

and punch ... How did we ever get off the FIJI island?

### Overall

The house worked hard and played harder. A sense of humor was ALWAYS there, and was ALWAYS a bit twisted. I still think I have never laughed as much or as often as I did then.

*Brothers, please help me find answers to these long-standing Theta Chi at MIT mysteries:*

- What does "MOGATE" mean and how did it come into existence?
- Who was Terry of Terry's Head?
- Who painted the cartoons on the 5L door?
- Who painted Terry's Head?
- Who was that girl in the rush poster, using a sponge? We used her picture EVERY year, and we seemed to figure that she could not have been any later than 1970, or maybe earlier?
- Did anyone ever see a space alien in one of Doc Hume's lenticular clouds?

## Let's remember our Theta Chi melodies ...

Here are two Theta Chi Fraternity songs that were popular from the 1970s and earlier. One group of brothers remembers them so well that they are sung at the weddings of their daughters today.

If you don't know the melody, ask an old timer.

### "DON'T TAKE MY PIN"

Oh, you may drink and you think  
That I'm dreaming of romance,  
Don't take my pin.  
I know I'm swell, what the hell,  
Give the other girls a chance,  
Don't take my pin.  
I know that I am the one  
And there is no other;  
I know you'd like to take me home  
To meet your mother;  
But can't you get a pin  
From my fraternity brother?  
Don't take my pin.

Just take my sterling silver locket  
That's engraved with Theta Chi  
Or take my overflowing goblet  
That is filled with scotch or rye.  
Oh, take my gray Chevrolet  
With the windshield wipers,  
Take my Dorsey records,  
With the four Pied Pipers,  
But if you take my pin  
I'm gonna lose my diapers,  
Don't take my pin.

### "MY DEAR LITTLE GIRL OF THETA CHI"

My dear little girl of Theta Chi  
We'll say good night but not goodbye  
'Though our college days are nearly through  
I'll never stray a kiss from you  
For soon we'll be hearing wedding bells  
No graduation day farewells  
Forever together you and I  
My dear little girl of Theta Chi.



# our alumni send their news

**Richard L. "Dick" Ballman '46** moved from South Hadley, Massachusetts, to Florida in 1970. His title at Monsanto was equivalent to research director in the field of rheology of liquid (melted) polymers for injection molding and spinning. He published about 80 papers and gave around 50 lectures in the U.S. and Europe. Dick married Jane Walker in 1952. Anne Louise was born in Holyoke, Massachusetts, in 1960—she is now a head nurse at a local hospital. Son Richard is a computer expert and works for Florida Lottery in Tallahassee. Elizabeth Florence married an army officer and lives in Huntsville, Alabama. Gretchen Jane is associated with NASA at Satellite Beach, Florida. Reconnect with Dick at 416 N. Sunset Blvd., Gulf Breeze, FL 32561; or ballman\_rl@hotmail.com.

Brothers can write to **Granville Bruce Kline '47** via his new postal address at 810 Scollard Ct., #707, Mississauga, ON L5V 0A4, Canada.

**Alden A. "Bud" West '47** celebrated his 90th birthday on January 29, 2012. Send a belated "happy birthday" to Bud at 5103 Patriots Colony Dr., Williamsburg, VA 23188; budwest122@cox.net.

**Richard A. Jacobs '56** sends greetings from 3375 Channelside Dr. SW, Supply, NC 28462; email him at dickjacobs@atmc.net.

When **William A. Bayer '58** wrote to us in October 2011, he reported, "I'm still consulting and enjoying it. I go skiing in the winter (so more three-day weekends). I am looking forward to our 55th Reunion in 2013—so hard to believe! Our 50th was terrific... still get a kick out of walking on campus." Catch up with Bill by sending mail to 125 Waranoke Rd., Manchester, CT 06040; or by sending email to wbayer@cox.net.

**Terrance A. "Terry" Chinn '65** wrote to us in October: "**Rick Gander's ('65)** article in the summer issue of the *Beta Button* prompted me to write. He says, 'Being sad when Wiz, Russ, and Basketball left MIT for different reasons and places'—I am 'Basketball' and was initiated in 1961. To this day, I have tremendous respect for anyone who completes a course of study at MIT. God used my year (1961–1962) at MIT to teach me of my utter dependence on him, and that what I thought was my particular intellectual prowess was overrated in my own



*Theta Chi at MIT hosted the Grand Chapter, Beta alumni, and alumni from other chapters.*

mind. After I failed 8.02, I lost my competitive scholarship, and realized that I was not programmed to be a physical scientist. So, God used my year with Beta of Theta Chi to teach me some important life lessons. During that difficult year, I was glad for my membership in a superb pledge class, and that the older brothers were both encouraging and supportive in my struggles. My career path changed to natural science, and I eventually graduated from medical school with an MD in 1970. I was board certified in the specialty of psychiatry and retired from my practice in 1999. My wife and I raised two sons and two daughters, but she died in 2001 from a horrible neurological disease. I have since remarried a wonderful, cute, and godly woman, and spend time playing bridge, recently fulfilling the requirements to become a Silver Life Master (1,000 master points). I vividly remember the incident with **Dave Sullivan '64**, in particular, that someone complained about us always having 'square meatballs' on Sundays! The list of MIT alumni volunteers also struck a chord with me, since **Sandy Blanchard** and **John Proctor** were my pledge brothers and I remember **Chet Riley '62** as a prominent member of Beta, and with a good heart as well. I occasionally have a hamburger with **Gary B. Rose '65**, who works locally for United Way, serving as the chairman for corporate giving. I would welcome any greetings from my (pledge) brothers—t8chinn@gmail.com."

Brothers may write to **David Baumgartner '08** via his new postal address: 2616 N. Clark St. Apt. 301, Chicago, IL 60614.

## deceased

**Frederick W. Pferdmenges Jr. '46**  
October 6, 2011

**Charles H. Spaulding '51**  
November 24, 2011

**Edward A. Ort '52**  
June 11, 2011

**Alan H. Friot '55**  
October 10, 2011

**Norman F. Marley '55**  
October 10, 2011

**Stanford R. Amstutz '55**  
December 11, 2011

**Cary R. Mock '64**  
March 11, 2010

## Stay in touch

*How about some news from younger alums? We'd love to hear what you've been up to since 528!*