

# The Bridge Builder

Connecting with Alumni, Families, & Friends of Beta



## Inside this Issue:

- > From the President's Desk
- > Convention Recap
- > Goodbye Class of 2010
- > Spring/Summer News & Accomplishments

The Newsletter of the Eta Epsilon Chapter of Beta Theta Pi Fraternity at John Carroll University



SPECIAL COMMEMORATIVE ISSUE



# HE

JCU colony goes to Washington, D.C. and becomes Eta Epsilon, the newest chapter of Beta Theta Pi



**Brothers who were present at the 171st General Convention to share the excitement of receiving our charter:**

*Top Row*—Joe Chinnici, Joel Mullner, Bill Worms, Dan Imfeld, Greg Sloat, Enzo Miceli, Chris Shaheen, Mark Ehrbar, Nathan Catalano, Brian Pestotnik, Ben Lupica.

*Middle Row*—Chris Saniuk, John Jackson, Andy Lane, Ric Eickhoff, J.J. Kuczynski, Kyle Sobh, Nick Orlando.

*Bottom Row*—Spencer German, Andrew Kalupski. *Not pictured*—Scott Allen.

## From the President's Desk



Chapter President Andy Lane addressing the attendees at the 171st General Convention's Awards Luncheon on August 6

# HE

Eta Epsilon—Greek Letters



Former colony president J.J. Kuczynski with his successor and little brother, Andy Lane

As one door closes, another door is opened. It is an honor and pleasure to represent the latest chapter of Beta Theta Pi, the Eta Epsilon Chapter at John Carroll University. This is an extremely exciting time for the active brothers of our chapter as we build off of what was started at Carroll three years ago. Now, almost more than ever before, we must continue to grow in areas of leadership and service not just to our Carroll and Cleveland communities, but to the General Fraternity. If we think of it from a new member standpoint, a pledge can represent a colony and an initiated brother can represent a chapter. Once a new member becomes an initiated member of our fraternity we expect more out of that person. The same thing holds true for becoming an official chapter of Beta Theta Pi. This Fall semester we will begin a new stage of "chapter life" at John Carroll including recruitment, fundraising, brotherhood, service, and our very own installation banquet.

Shortly, the brothers of our chapter will be going to Thornacres for a brotherhood/recruitment education retreat. During this retreat, it is our goal to build brotherhood and explore Beta's mission, vision, and ritual in depth and how it relates to recruitment. Once we return to campus, the start of Formal Recruitment week will begin. We will be looking to recruit new campus leaders, men who want to make a difference and men who are committed to achieving inside and outside of the classroom.

During the Fall semester we will also begin to take advantage of new fundraising opportunities. The first weekend of October we will be traveling to Cedar Point and volunteering inside the park. I have been told that groups can raise up to \$2,000 or more in one weekend! Our goal is to raise

money for leadership development opportunities and for our Installation Banquet.

Although we are still in the planning phase of our installation banquet, there are many exciting opportunities in the works. We will be partnering with the General Fraternity and our Administrative Office to hold our Installation Banquet in conjunction with their quarterly Board of Trustees meeting. Save the weekend of November 5-7 on your calendars now! Our banquet will be held on November 6—more information to come, so please stay informed.

The Eta Epsilon chapter is also excited to name a new philanthropy that we will begin to work with starting this semester—Milestones, whose principles are education, training, and collaboration for the Autism community. For more information about Milestones, check out their website at [www.milestones.org](http://www.milestones.org). We plan to work with Milestones numerous times throughout the semester.

With a busy schedule ahead of us, we have much to look forward to as we start the transition from colony to chapter. As we begin this new stage in our chapter's history, we must be thankful for what was created for us by our brothers that came before us. I wish all of our seniors that graduated this past May much success and happiness during their new stages of life. To all of our alumni, I ask you to please stay connected with this good and great fraternity that many of you helped to create at Carroll.

-Andrew Lane '12  
*Chapter President*



The 171st General Convention of Beta Theta Pi was held August 5-8, 2010 at the Crystal Gateway Marriott in Arlington, Virginia. What follows is a scrapbook of memories from four incredible days when John Carroll earned its place as a chapter in this Good and Great Fraternity.





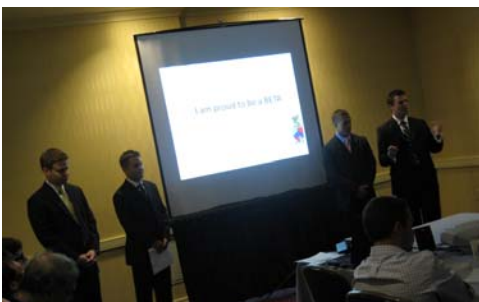
Brothers calling, texting, and "tweeting" the good news!



The "Reserved" table signs told the story—no other chapter had that.



J.J. Kuczynski offering remarks at the Awards Luncheon.



ABOVE: Nathan Catalano, Kyle Sobh, J.J. Kuczynski, and Andy Lane answer questions following their chartering presentation.

RIGHT: All 21 actives, alumni, and advisors from JCU pose with General Fraternity President Dr. Tom Purinton (front row, 3rd from right).

## John Carroll shines at the 171st General Convention

How sweet it was! The 171<sup>st</sup> General Convention of Beta Theta Pi held in Arlington, Virginia August 5-8, 2010 was a most memorable occasion for all John Carroll Betas and advisors. 21 actives, alumni, and advisors attended this exciting event and helped celebrate the chartering of the Eta Epsilon Chapter...that's right...*Chapter* – not Colony.

The chapter's presentation team of Andy Lane, Nathan Catalano, J.J. Kuczynski, and Kyle Sobh was outstanding in its early morning presentation to the Charters Subcommittee. I have attended many of these chartering review sessions over the years and there have been none better. Not only did the committee give swift approval of its recommendation for chartering but the convention delegates also acted quickly without anyone raising any objections. Putting it in perspective, this was not the case with any of the other three colonies applying for charters. So...three years since October 1, 2007 to August 6, 2010 boiled down to three hours from presentation to chartering to a hearty welcome (*"There's a Scene Where Brothers Greet..."*) into the convention legislative halls of Beta Theta Pi.

What may have seemed like an eternity – 3 years – was well worth it for all John Carroll Betas who worked hard to achieve this ultimate goal. And for those of you who worked on the Chartering Petition, it was a knockout.

But there is more. An hour or so later the Awards Luncheon was held and Eta Epsilon received 6 awards which was great recognition for the newest chapter of Beta Theta Pi. J.J. and Andy were the featured speakers and their presentations were excellent. The "Reserved JOHN CARROLL" table signs told the story – no other chapter had that.

All in all, Eta Epsilon was the talk of convention. And why not!

I have worked with several chapters over the years and – without a doubt – Eta Epsilon has been the most rewarding. There is excellent rapport with advisors, a great deal of enthusiasm, outstanding undergraduates, and a desire to "just do it" and be the best.

The goal now is to keep the momentum going. This is just the beginning. Many opportunities exist for Eta Epsilon to shine in 2010-2011 --- Chapter installation, Sisson Award, Knox Award, Housing – as well as campus and community activities along with high academic achievement which are now part of Eta Epsilon's profile.

Congratulations to the entire chapter!

-Joe Chinnici, *Ohio State '64*  
Financial Advisor



## Eta Epsilon—What does earning a charter mean?

At last month's General Convention, the men of John Carroll University received their charter and became a chapter of Beta Theta Pi. This is no small task. Receiving unanimous consent of their peers, the men were honored for their work and became the Eta Epsilon chapter of Beta Theta Pi. So what goes into receiving a charter? Well, for more than three years, the men have been working to establish a positive presence on campus and in our community. Earning a charter means that the men have a healthy size, are strong in the classroom and involved on campus, volunteer their time in the community, and have strong internal mechanisms for running an organization. I hope you are as proud as I am to be associated with such a wonderful group of men.

Although this is a time for pause and excitement, it is also a time for visioning. Now that one chapter in the organization's history has been written, it is time for the current men to determine what the next phase will look like. As you can imagine, this is an exciting yet daunting space to be in. More than ever, the men need our support. As a chapter of Beta Theta Pi they are responsible for modeling the way and creating a sustainable environment where men can live the values of our organization. Doing so is an incredible responsibility. I am committed to helping the men continue their growth in an organization created to "build men of principle for a principled life." By doing so, we will build a bridge for countless JCU students to experience Beta Theta Pi. This is an exciting prospect because no organization has had a greater impact on my growth and development as a man.

-Scott J. Allen, Ph.D.  
Assistant Professor of Management  
Faculty Advisor, Eta Epsilon and Vice President, Beta Theta Pi Board of Trustees

## Brothers further develop leadership skills

Other than the chapter's delegate to the General Convention, all undergraduate Betas participated in the Peter F. Greiner Leadership College while in D.C. Those in the "Emerging Leader" track were provided with time-tested concepts and skills they could bring back to the chapter as well as use personally now and well into the future. Those in the "Advanced Leader" track were charged with providing recommendations to the Board of Trustees on ways to improve and enhance the General Fraternity. Advisor Joel Mullner and founding father Nick Orlando '11 served as facilitators.



## JCU brings home six awards from D.C.

At the Awards Luncheon on August 6, John Carroll's name was called six times in recognition of its achievements and strong performance over the last year. We received:

- Charles Henry Hardin Leadership Development Award
- Virginia Tech Award for Academics
- Excellence in Risk Management Award
- Campus Involvement Award
- Member Education Award
- Charles Henry Hardin Leadership Development Award  
Special Recognition for the Highest Percentage of  
Members attending a leadership opportunity



Brothers look out at the Washington Monument and Reflecting Pool from the stairs of the Lincoln Memorial



Patiently waiting outside the Convention Hall to hear our results



Brothers outside of the White House concluding our history-making day



LEFT: Chris Saniuk, Joel Mullner, and Brian Pestotnik exploring Washington, D.C.

## Brothers share their Convention experiences

Convention was a great opportunity to interact with brothers from other chapters to learn how they're succeeding, and to offer advice on how they can improve. It was also an unbelievable experience to be recognized for all our hard work by receiving our charter.

-Nick Orlando '11

Convention was an AMAZING experience! Being in a room filled with hundreds of Betas from around the country was awesome! Receiving our charter and the six awards handed out by the General Fraternity was excellent but that's not the end—we're going for the Knox next year!

-Greg Sloat '12

It was the most amazing Beta experience of my life because I was in the same room with men of all ages that I can call my brothers. It gave me such a rush to meet these guys who share the same values and principles as me and be able to partake in a sacred initiation of 4 new brothers!

-Bill Worms '12

Convention was an absolute eye opening and amazing experience. Walking into a room knowing Betas from across the country and from different decades were all there for the same reason and understanding is truly a wonderful feeling and quite the sight to see. I am proud to be a Beta!

-Brian Pestotnik '12

The weekend was truly a pinnacle of brotherhood bonding and leadership development. With inspirational words from Beta senators, astronauts, and journalists coupled with motivational music videos and one-on-ones from members of the Board, the 171st General Convention fostered a stronger, confident, and more understanding leader within me, with ever more friendships and awesome experiences with my brothers of Beta. We were recognized with a handful of awards, had brothers speak in front of the whole convention, and soaked in the rich history and architecture of a city one can never visit enough!

-Chris Shaheen '12

Convention in Washington, D.C. was a great experience. Not only were we surrounded by the history of our nation, but we were also making our own history. The feelings of accomplishment, gratitude, and pride upon receiving our charter were great.

-John Jackson '13



RIGHT: Andy Lane with Greg Sloat at the Convention-closing Celebration Banquet

## Brothers share their Convention experiences

I was so proud at Convention to hear John Carroll University announced no less than six times at the awards banquet the afternoon we received our charter. It was a proud moment to be a BETA.

-Nathan Catalano '12

It was incredible to see all of the amazing things Betas from around the country have done. I am happy to say that I am a Beta and a brother to all of these amazing people.

-Dan Imfeld '13

Convention gave me a higher respect for the fraternity as a whole. It is very encouraging to see other Betas (alumni and students) and Friends of Beta (FDBs) so passionate about the organization.

-Mark Ehrbar '12

Convention was a great time. It gave me an opportunity to see how great the fraternity is as a whole. Getting our charter and touring D.C. made the trip very enjoyable!

-Chris Saniuk '12

I felt that Convention was a great opportunity to meet other brothers from around the country and see how they run their chapters in comparison to ours. I felt that it showed me personally that our new chapter actually runs very smoothly in comparison to some other chapters that have bigger issues on their campuses. I was still able to learn a lot though about how to run our chapter and fix any issues we may have and I enjoyed the experience of being around so many brothers and being able to learn from one another as well as explore downtown D.C.

-Spencer German '13

An experience like no other, I was able to meet Betas from all over the country and explore Washington, D.C. for the first time.

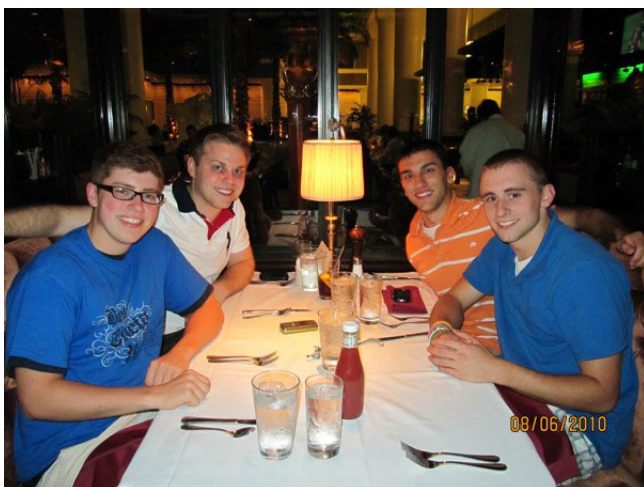
-Enzo Miceli '13



Bill Worms '12, Mark Ehrbar '12, Enzo Miceli '13, and Chris Shaheen '12 walk into the Convention Hall to the applause and singing of the delegates to the 171st General Convention



The Grand Ballroom at the Crystal Gateway Marriott



RIGHT: Dan Imfeld, John Jackson, and Greg Sloat outside of the United States Capitol Building

LEFT: Chris Shaheen, Nathan Catalano, Enzo Miceli, and Spencer German dine at the Old Ebbitt Grill. The quartet went on to serenade their waitress with a rendition of "Beta Rose."



## Reflections from our Alumni

Joining the ranks of Beta Theta Pi as a Founding Father of the JCU Colony, now Eta Epsilon Chapter of this fine organization, was the best decision I made in my undergraduate collegiate career. Serving the colony as recruitment chairman for nearly three terms, being a part of the chartering presentation team, and watching one's vision for this organization become a reality are just a few of highlights of my Beta experience. Beta has given me so much: I have developed as a leader and I have made bonds of friendship that will last until we are old, but most importantly, Beta has paved the way for all of my future endeavors. Receiving our charter was an indescribable experience that filled each of us with overwhelming joy. Knowing that the Eta Epsilon chapter will remain on campus as the model fraternity we intended it to become is most gratifying. Every day I Thank God for my brothers and that I'm a Beta.

-Kyle Sobh '10, '12G  
Founding Father

Convention meant the culmination of hard work and dedication for a group of great men at JCU. As an alumni attendee, I felt a "proud father" moment as we not only received our charter but proceeded to win six national awards and be the only chapter highlighted at the awards luncheon. I see a very bright future for the Eta Epsilon Chapter at JCU on account of its fine men now and the ones yet to come and I am grateful that I was a stepping stone in this life-changing organization.

-Andrew Kolupski '10  
Founding Father

Although I have attended a past Convention and plan to attend more in the future, the 171st General Convention forever will have a special place in my heart. Being a part of the chartering presentation team was an absolute honor, but receiving the charter with nearly all of my brothers present was an even greater honor. As the sole member of the Alpha Class, this moment was the most rewarding capstone I could have asked for to complete my time as an undergraduate. Being recruited by this organization, meeting lifelong friends, serving a term as colony president, and being there for the most exciting moment in our chapter's young history is a timeline of events which seems nothing but surreal. Being a Beta is a blessing which I'm thankful for every day of my life. I can only hope that more deserving young men get this rare and fulfilling opportunity.

-J.J. Kuczynski '10  
Alpha Class



ABOVE: Brothers talk with General Fraternity leadership development advisor Don "Dipper" DiPaolo.

BELOW: The Chartering Presentation Team—Nathan Catalano '12, Kyle Sobh '10, J.J. Kuczynski '10, Andy Lane '12



ABOVE: Brothers met Betas of all generations during Convention.

BELOW: Eta Epsilon Alumni with Chapter Counselor Ric Eickhoff.





A family affair: Chapter Counselor Ric Eickhoff with his wife Cindy, daughter-in-law Leah, granddaughter Lauren, and son Eric.



A midnight rendezvous: Brothers meet up on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial to end a long but fun day in Washington, D.C.



Marching along: A dozen JCU Betas joined many more brothers from across the country on stage for the Convention Chorus (some are seen lower left).

## Thoughts from our Advisors

I wish all of you could have shared in all the compliments that I received at Convention! Some of them were: "You must be proud," "What a great group of men," "This is what Beta is looking for," "Can we clone John Carroll 120 times?" My responses were: "I am proud," "They are great," "We need more like them," "I wish we could clone them too." The weekend was filled with comments like these...I tried to remain humble...at times it was difficult!

Well done men...VERY WELL DONE!

-Ric Eickhoff, *General Fraternity Rolls '02*  
Chapter Counselor

What a great experience to witness the reception of the Eta Epsilon charter after seeing the beginning of our colony over three years ago! The fruition of JCU Beta Men of Principle was totally evident with such national recognition and acclaim for this great achievement!

Each time I met a Beta undergraduate and alumnus from around the country they were always so impressed, pleased, and very eager to compliment our fine delegation to the 171st General Convention. It was also a great honor to represent the Northeastern Ohio Beta Alumni Association for this momentous event which had locally supported the JCU Beta colony since its inception in 2007.

-Benjamin Lupica, *Bowling Green '71*  
Alumni Relations Advisor

Attending the 171<sup>st</sup> General Convention was such an amazing and – at times – indescribable experience, and I am thrilled I had the opportunity to be with my brothers for such a momentous and memorable occasion in our chapter's history. It was hard not to feel a sense of overwhelming pride throughout the four days as John Carroll earned its charter, received a handful of awards, and was highlighted during the awards luncheon. The Convention served as a great way to not only celebrate our successes, but to introduce Eta Epsilon as one of the premier young chapters in this Great and Good Fraternity.

-Joel Mullner, *John Carroll '07, '09G*  
Member Education Advisor

Eta Epsilon was the star of the show and the stage is set for the next chapter in the story of Beta Theta Pi at John Carroll University!

-Scott Allen, *Minnesota '95*  
Faculty Advisor

## Goodbye and good luck, JCU Class of 2010



Jurell Sison & Brandon Sheil



Senior Year Housemates: Andrew Kolupski, Kyle Sobh, & Jeff Bradish



All in the family: Founding Father Kurt Hauber with great-grandniece Enzo Miceli, grandniece Jeff Bartolozzi, and little Ross Venzke



Millor Orator J.J. Kuczynski



This past May, the John Carroll Colony of Beta Theta Pi met at the home of chapter counselor Ric Eickhoff to say our goodbyes to our ten graduating seniors, our largest graduating class yet. Each senior was given the opportunity to address the group and give his final words of wisdom. A little about each graduate: **Jamie Ott** earned his B.A. in Economics and will be attending graduate school at Case Western Reserve University. **Kyle Sobh** graduated with a B.S. in Biology and will serve as a graduate assistant in the Office of the President while seeking his master's degree in nonprofit administration at John Carroll. **Kurt Hauber** is also staying at JCU for his master's after earning his B.S. in Biology, and will be a graduate assistant in the Biology Department. **Andrew Kolupski** moved south to pursue his MBA at the University of Tampa, and will be living with **Jeff Bradish**, who is working for Jamestown Rubber Stamp Co. in Tampa. Both graduated with their B.S.B.A. in Management. So too did **Ross Venzke**, who is entering the work force in Columbus. **J.J. Kuczynski** is off to Walsh University for his Doctorate in Physical Therapy after receiving his B.A. in Exercise Science, while **Jurell Sison** is taking a year to serve in the Jesuit Volunteer Corps at Cristo Rey High School in Detroit, MI. He earned his B.A. in English Literature at JCU. **Brandon Sheil** is also performing a year of service through City Year in Cleveland after graduating with a B.A. in Communication & Political Science. **Jeff Bartolozzi**, who received a B.A. in Philosophy, rounds out the Class of 2010 with quite the move ahead of him—he will be going to Africa as part of the PeaceCorps to work on business community development. Congrats and best wishes to all of you!

## Kuczynski delivers Millor Orator Address at Commencement

Former colony president J.J. Kuczynski held the high honor of being the only student to speak at this year's Commencement Exercises on May 23. Selected following a competitive application and audition process, he had the difficult assignment of following Commencement Speaker Tom Brokaw of NBC News, who met with J.J. earlier that day to

offer some advice and encouraging words. "Not only was I representing my school and graduating class, but I was also representing my family, friends, and fraternity. It was the single proudest moment of my life," Kuczynski stated. To see video of J.J.'s address or the text of the full speech, visit our website at [www.jcubetas.org](http://www.jcubetas.org).

## News & Accomplishments

We are ready to hit the ground running this fall after a number of phenomenal achievements this spring and summer, both on behalf of the chapter and its members. Listed below are some news and accomplishments from the Eta Epsilon of Beta Theta Pi.

### Chapter maintains top fraternity GPA

Brothers continued their high-achieving performance in the classroom as Beta earned the top GPA among fraternities at JCU for the sixth consecutive semester in spring 2010.

### Vogel leads immersion

Andrew Vogel '11 served as one of the leaders for the May 2010 immersion experience to Ecuador. This is the second year that Andrew has shown South America what "commitment to community" is all about!

### Sison a Beaudry finalist

Jurell Sison '10 was one of six finalists for the Beaudry Award, given annually to one graduating senior in recognition of service to the community, academic achievement, leadership, and commitment to Christian values.



Soon-to-be alumni at the Senior Send-Off this past May

### Kolupski, Sheil finalists for Outstanding Student Leader

Andrew Kolupski '10 and Brandon Sheil '10 were finalists for the 2010 Outstanding Student Leader Award, given to those who have made significant contributions to changing the campus culture during their tenure at JCU.

### Betas guiding new students

Six of eleven male tour guides in the Office of Admission this year will be Betas—congrats to Mark Ehrbar '12, Spencer German '13, Andy Lane '12, Chris Shaheen '12, Nick Skiviat '12, & Greg Sloat '12.

### Lane, Worms win Beta Merit Scholarship awards

This summer, Andy Lane '12 earned the David Linton Memorial Scholarship, while Bill Worms '12 claimed the Cleveland Alumni Association Scholarship. Congrats to both of you!



2010 Executive Board at their summer planning retreat

### Best in philanthropy

This past April, Beta Theta Pi was awarded "Best in Philanthropy" by JCU Greek Life for our commitment to service.



Andrew Vogel in Duran, Ecuador with the Rostro de Cristo program

### Exec meets to plan year ahead

On August 1, the executive board and advisors met for a planning retreat at the home of Chapter Counselor Ric Eickhoff to set a calendar, establish goals, and prepare for the year to come.



Dan Imfeld, Kyle Sobh, Brian Pestotnik, and Greg Sloat worked during JCU's annual Reunion Weekend

### Campus leaders

John Jackson '13 and Andrew Vogel '11 served as Streak Week Assistance Team (SWAT) Leaders to help with move-in and fall orientation for the Class of 2014. Enzo Miceli '13 was one of the student leaders for the Cleveland Neighborhood Project.

This fall, sophomores Dan Imfeld, Ben Rossi, and Trenton Oczypok will take on major leadership roles as resident assistants.



Dom Iacozili, Andy Lane, Bill Worms, and Nick Skiviat in Pittsburgh for the Fourth of July fireworks

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**Mark your calendars!**

**Formal Recruitment**  
September 12-16

**Homecoming**  
September 25

**Cedar Point Weekend**  
October 1-3

**Carroll's Got Talent**  
November 5

**Installation & Celebration**  
November 6

**Zeta Class Initiation**  
November 20

**Through the Eyes of a Child**  
December 4



**Eta Epsilon**  
**INSTALLATION WEEKEND**

**Carroll's Got Talent**, the university-wide talent show featuring students, faculty, and staff, will take place on **Friday, November 5** in Kulas Auditorium. All proceeds will benefit our new local philanthropy, the Milestones Autism Organization. Last year, we were able to raise \$1,000. We hope to see you there this year!



The **Eta Epsilon Chapter Installation & Celebration** will take place on **Saturday, November 6** in conjunction with the quarterly meeting of the Beta Theta Pi Board of Trustees.

We will come together with Betas from Case Western Reserve University and northeast Ohio, along with our families, friends, and JCU staff to truly celebrate our accomplishments and new beginning as a chapter of Beta Theta Pi. More details of the day's events are forthcoming!



**BETA THETA PI**  
FRATERNITY

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University Heights, OH 44118

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

*Check us out online at:*

**[www.jcubetas.org](http://www.jcubetas.org)**