

BETA THETA PI FRATERNITY

Eta Epsilon Chapter at John Carroll University

The Bridge Builder

Connecting with Alumni, Families, & Friends of Beta



A Word From Our President

John Jackson '13

The holiday season is here with a lot to be thankful for in our Beta community. Beta has diligently worked this past semester to promote brotherhood and has received accolades for individual members as well as the chapter. I



am very pleased to announce that Beta Theta Pi was named as the top fraternity for 2011 at the inaugural Student Orgs Academy Awards, held on November 11 at John Carroll University. The award was based on how well the fraternity lived out its motto and values, as well as the impact it had on the John Carroll community in the past year.

This honor is very exciting and something that we will continue to strive for in the future. Greg Sloat '12 was also named one of the top ten student leaders of the year at the awards night. It is wonderful to have a fellow brother recognized by the John Carroll community at large for all of the work he has done.

Congratulations also goes to Greg for being inducted into the Greek honor society Order of Omega (OOO) on November 20th. Greg's induction marks the tenth Beta who is an active member of the current 45-member OOO organization. The fact

that Beta's membership accounts for almost a fourth of the entire society, which represents all nine Greek chapters, is a testament to how the brothers are truly living out the values of Beta.

November 20th was also the day of Alpha Sigma Nu induction. Congratulations to Dan Imfeld '13, Ben Rossi '13, and Nick Skiviat '12, as well as Kyle Sobh '10, '12G, for being inducted into the Jesuit honor society. This honor of distinction is only awarded to those individuals who show the utmost diligence in their work in academics, leadership, and service to others. Again, Dan, Ben, and Nick are three great examples of members living out our core values.

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Developing Men of Principle for a principled life!

One last shout-out to new initiate Tim Ficke '15, who was voted to a position on the Class of 2015 Senate. Tim's motivation to get involved with the Student Union so early on in his Carroll career is a great example of how passionate leadership is a mark of a Beta. We look forward to the positive impact Tim will have on his own class.

Apart from the various accolades that the chapter and individual members have been receiving this year, members have also taken the time to slow down and reflect on where they are at in their college journey.

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New Beta Floor Headed in Great Direction

Rich Mazzola '13, Housing Manager



The "octa-lounge" on the new Beta floor in Hamlin Hall

It has been an exciting time of year for John Carroll Betas. We have welcomed fourteen great new members and had an exciting trip to Oxford, Ohio, but perhaps the most exciting of all is that we have received our very own floor to call home.

At John Carroll University, each Greek organization is able to petition for its own floor. Access can be restricted and members can decorate it as they see fit. One of the key requirements, however, is that the fraternity or sorority be chartered under its national organization. Once Eta Epsilon earned its charter in summer 2010, we also earned the right to petition for the floor at the end of last year. We were awarded a floor beginning with this school year and moved in this August.

Our floor is located on the third level of Hamlin Hall. We have the ability to paint the halls, and can decorate both the study lounge and living lounge (also known as the "octa-lounge" because of its shape). Our chapter has used the study lounge not only for studying but for family gatherings and to get to know potential new members. The "octa-lounge" is the site for many brotherhood events, including our weekly pizza/movie nights, and also serves a dual purpose as a conference room for casual meetings.

During our parents BBQ event last month, we were able to invite the families of our brothers onto the floor for a quick tour. Our parents were relieved to know that their sons are in an environment which speaks to our principles while we continue to develop gentlemen, leaders, and scholars. Many have taken advantage of our study lounge, which also houses our many awards from the General Fraternity, a white and black board, and a coffee maker (for those wishing to pull an all-nighter).

Our hope for the future is to fill the floor to the brim with awards, banners, and signs showing our accomplishments in the community. With our sights set high, we hope to expand the floor to new brothers and new alumni wishing to keep up with the Betas on campus. This floor will hopefully enhance our brotherhood to reach new levels of success both on campus and in our community, while also making the bonds of our friendship stronger each day.



The study lounge with some awards in the bookcase

Five JCU Betas Receive Beta Merit Scholarships

Joel Mullner, Founding Father, Member Edu. & PR Advisor

Five brothers of the Eta Epsilon chapter received more than \$5,000 in scholarships this summer from the Beta Theta Pi Foundation, which awards roughly 70 tuition-based scholarships each year to undergraduate and graduate students. Candidates submit a written application to the Foundation in the spring, which is then reviewed by a panel of three independent judges. This year, 48 chapters were represented among 71 total recipients. Only the Alpha Chapter at Miami University (Ohio) had more recipients than John Carroll.



*Recipients of 2011 Beta Merit Scholarships (L-R):
N. Skiviat, B. Rossi, C. Shaheen, J. Jackson, D. Imfeld*

Chapter president **John Jackson '13** earned \$1,250 from the Thad Byrne Memorial Scholarship. A former member educator, John is also an athlete on the varsity track team, a leader for this fall's Manresa Retreat, and is active with the "We The People" service learning program. **Christopher Shaheen '12**, former vice president and current brotherhood chairman, received the Cleveland Alumni Association Scholarship in the amount of \$1,200. Chris is active with the Finance Association, Men's Club Volleyball team, and Students Today Leaders Forever. **Ben Rossi '13** claimed the William C. Scheetz Memorial Scholarship, worth \$1,100. In addition to his involvement as a resident assistant and member of the Men's Club Volleyball team, Ben is rounding out his second year on the executive board, serving as treasurer in 2010 and scholarship chairman in 2011. Chapter vice president **Dan Imfeld '13** won the William W. Dawson Memorial Scholarship, valued at \$975. Dan, a former recruitment chairman, is a senior resident assistant and member of Seeds of Hope (Big Brothers Big Sisters). Finally, **Nick Skiviat '12**, the chapter's service/philanthropy chairman and the current president of JCU's Interfraternity Council, received the \$500 John R. Simpson Memorial Scholarship. Nick is also a campus tour guide, co-leader of a Christian Life Community, and executive officer of JCUEMS.

Eta Epsilon is thrilled to have ten Beta Merit Scholars in only three years, as these men join Kurt Hauber '10, J.J. Kuczynski '10, Jamie Ott '10, Andy Lane '12, and Bill Worms '12 as scholarship recipients. Congrats to all!



Creachbaum, Keppler win scholarships

Freshmen Markus Creachbaum and Freddy Keppler were the recipients of this year's **Men of Principle Scholarship**. Each received a check for \$250 thanks to a grant from the Beta Theta Pi Foundation. It was a very competitive year for the scholarship and while the decisions were difficult, Markus and Freddy rose to the top. They are pictured at left with scholarship chairman Ben Rossi '13.

Matthew Ansec '15



Hometown: Solon, OH
Major: Physics

Patrick Anzevino '15



Hometown: Salem, OH
Major: Finance

Dale Armbruster '14



Hometown: Parma, OH
Major: Communication

Ned Barnes '15



Hometown: Syracuse, NY
Major: Communication

Recruitment

Recruitment for fall 2011 has been Beta's most successful recruitment period yet. With fun recruitment events, large attendance at those events, and an interested freshman class, Eta Epsilon had its largest induction class in chapter history. A successful recruitment for this fall was one of the chapter's goals heading into this year. "As we progressed from summer into our fall semester, we knew that recruitment needed to be a top priority in order for us to succeed as a chapter," recruitment chair Ken Clar stated. "To achieve this success, our chapter goals included adding 12-15 of the highest quality Men of Principle on John Carroll's campus to our chapter. I am proud to announce that we have achieved this goal." Ken also wanted to thank our advisors, alumni, and leadership consultant, Tristan Sopp, who put in their time and effort to support our recruitment efforts this year.

Sean Calhoun '15



Hometown: Erie, PA
Major: Finance

Chris Casey, Jr. '15



Hometown: Concord, OH
Major: Computer Information Systems

Kahim Chan '15



Hometown: Hong Kong, China
Major: Finance/Accounting

Matthew Duff III '14



Hometown: Westchester, IL
Major: Spanish

Dom Interlicchia '15



Hometown: Webster, NY
Major: Business

Tyler Kempton '15



Hometown: Clarence Center, NY
Major: Finance

Drew Kostiuk '15



Hometown: Louisville, OH
Major: Biology

Paul Mullin '15



Hometown: Syracuse, NY
Major: Sociology & Criminology

New Member Education

Greg Sloat '12 led the pledges through the education program as Member Educator. Weekly pledge classes were held in which the 14 new members learned of the history of Beta Theta Pi, as well as the values, ritual, and meanings of the Fraternity. They bonded through dinners, the semi-annual pledge retreat, and during class in order to form a strong, close, and inseparable bond.

A big brother was assigned to each of the new members in order to serve as a mentor and role model for the new members throughout their time as Betas. During "big brother week," a series of gifts were presented from the bigs to the new members in secrecy. During the Big Brother ceremony, the 'biggs' were revealed to the 'littles.' Each one of the new members was relieved to know the identity of his big brother.



During our retreat's "Pipeline" team-building activity, brothers struggle to come up with a plan, but ultimately accomplish their goal!

Seniors Brian Pestotnik (far left) and Greg Sloat (far right) with members of the Eta Class at the conclusion of the pledge retreat at Carrollodge



Initiation

The Betas were excited to take part in the first ever overnight Initiation trip. All of the Betas and soon-to-be Betas left campus Friday afternoon, November 18, to drive to Oxford, Ohio for the ceremony, which got underway around 10 p.m. in the Hall of Chapters. All of the new members were excited to begin their journey not as a pledge awaiting brotherhood, but as a brother in this outstanding chapter of Beta Theta Pi.

After officially becoming Betas, the newest members joined with their brothers to drive over to our resort accommodations in Hueston Woods State Park. After settling in their rooms, the brothers gathered in the lobby to watch retreat videos, play games, and enjoy each other's company. It was a night of bonding that included the brothers sharing stories of their journey at JCU.

The next morning, the JCU Betas headed back over to the Administrative Office of Beta Theta Pi. There, they received a tour of the entire building and grounds from our leadership consultant, Tristan Sopp, who also facilitated a review of our Ritual. While most of the new members stated that the Initiation ritual was their favorite part of the trip, the whole weekend was one full of memories, bonding, and excitement as the 14 new members took their oath to Beta Theta Pi.



Hometown: Elkhart, IN
Major: Biology & Philosophy

"I drove down with much anticipation of the exciting event, but also with a little hesitation. Was I a right fit for Beta? Did I deserve this honor? As we were lined up in a certain order, all of my worries had disappeared. I was the first in line and it was then I realized as Tim Ficke leaned over and said 'I always come in second' that I was #69. I was surprised and honored. I didn't know what to think, but as I looked down the line of my brothers I did not feel any better than them. I saw the Beta Spirit in each of them, and I was excited to be able to finally call them brothers. I have never felt so close to anyone, other than my mom and sister. As I look at all of the brothers, I see these men being the people I go to when my life goes to shambles; these are the people who I can have complete confidence in; and these are the people I see being friends with for the rest of my life. With Beta, I am home."

- Markus Creachbaum '15



Hometown: Cincinnati, OH
Major: Finance

"The people in Beta are not just gentlemen, leaders, and scholars, but they are 'Men of Principle' who expect the highest of themselves, their brothers, and everyone else around them; they will not settle for anything less. These are the people I know I can count on in a time of need, and will definitely succeed in life. My brothers are more than just my best friends; I love each and every one of them and respect them more than they will ever know."

I have only been involved with Beta for two months, but it has already been a life-changing experience. I know I have grown as a person and have become much more outgoing than I ever have been before. Very rarely in life do I come across something that is simply too great to describe. This is one of them. Trying to come up with words to describe how great Beta really is, is not an easy task. Joining Beta Theta Pi has been one of the best decisions of my life, one that I know I will never regret."

- Tim Ficke '15



JCU Betas at Case Western's Walkathon

Spencer German '13



Brothers from JCU who attended the walkathon at Case Western (L-R): Matt Ansec, Ken Clar, Spencer German, Tyler Kempton, Kahim Chan, Patrick Anzevino.

Back on October 8, members of the Eta Epsilon chapter joined their Beta brothers at Case Western Reserve University for their annual diabetes walkathon. The weather was perfect for everyone who participated and the brothers enjoyed spending some quality time with their fellow brothers. There was a great turnout of other Case students who walked alongside the Betas as well. All enjoyed their experience as they walked to raise money for diabetes. Not only was the event fun for everyone there, but there was also great food – everything from burgers, chips, pizza, and cake were available for walkathon participants to devour after the event. Add great food, amazing weather, and memories with some Beta Spirit, and you have an overall successful day! The Eta Epsilon chapter looks forward to spending more time with their brothers of the Lambda Kappa-Beta chapter in the near future!

Cedar Point Fundraising

Eight members of Eta Epsilon journeyed to Sandusky, Ohio in order to take advantage of a fundraising opportunity for our chapter; however, fundraising was only one of a few things the men got out of their trip! Upon arrival at Cedar Point Amusement Park, the men were excited to hear that they were not scheduled to work on Friday night. Therefore, they took advantage of free admission to the park and rode rides until the park closed. They headed over to the sleeping quarters to find rough (but survivable) sleeping arrangements.

The next morning, they drove to the park shortly after the gates opened. After enjoying the park until they were scheduled to work, the brothers put in a long 11-hour shift working photo booths. They were dispersed over different roller coaster ride locations and worked printing and assembling the purchased ride photos. They worked Saturday as well as Sunday, and drove back to campus after their shift on Sunday night.

Over the entire weekend, those who attended bonded in a way that will be remembered during their college years. During the rough aspects of the weekend, they helped each other laugh it off. During the fun aspects of the weekend, they helped each other enjoy it more by having a blast with each other. This fundraiser helped to pay part of the spring semester dues for those who participated. Overall, the group enjoyed one of the most fun weekends of the semester!



"The Frozen Chosen" outside Cedar Point after Sunday's work shift. Front row: John Jackson, Nick Fill, Paul Mullin, Tim Ficke. Back row: Matt Ansec, Sean Calhoun, Chris Casey, Matt Duff.

Service & Philanthropy Events

Through the Eyes of a Child

Saturday, December 3, 2011

Through the Eyes of a Child is an annual event co-sponsored by Beta Theta Pi and Circle K International in which more than 100 Cleveland area children in grades K-4 visit JCU's campus for several hours of holiday fun and activities. This year's event took place on Saturday, December 3rd and included students from St. Francis and St. Thomas Aquinas elementary schools. Activities included cookie decorating, arts and crafts, storybook reading, lunch in the dining hall, and a visit with Santa.

This is a great event for anyone looking for a fun and rewarding service project during the holiday season. Service/philanthropy chair Nick Skiviat '12, assisted by Greg Sloat '12, worked to handle the logistics and planning to ensure that the event ran smoothly. JCU Betas served as buddies and event helpers throughout the day, as this is one of Beta's biggest service events of the year.



Carroll's Got Talent

Friday, January 27, 2012

Beta has had much success in the past several years hosting Carroll's Got Talent. This year, Nick Skiviat '12 and Markus Creachbaum '15 will take on the role of running the event and there is much anticipation for this year's exciting talent show. From singers and musicians to dance crews and those with odd talents, the JCU community is proud to display such a wide array of talents. Beta is pleased to announce once again that all proceeds will benefit our chapter's philanthropy, the Milestones Autism Organization. We are proud to host such a helpful fundraiser for our philanthropy.

Come join us on January 27 in Kulas Auditorium for this one-of-a-kind display of talent and help support a great cause. This is Beta's biggest philanthropy event of the year and we are just as excited as you are in supporting Milestones!



Other Upcoming Events

December 7 – Greek Life-sponsored Tobogganing Trip

December 7 – White Elephant Christmas Party & New Executive Board takes office

January 13-15 – Chapter Presidents Leadership Academy (Oxford, Ohio)

February 17-19 – Keystone Regional Leadership Conference (Itasca, Illinois)

A Word From Our President (continued)

Before initiation, the pledge class spent the weekend of November 11-13 at Carrollodge. This was a time for team building exercises, trust activities, and a chance to learn more about one another. But most importantly, the retreat was a time for the class to relax and enjoy one another's company. Active members, including many big brothers and some advisors, made the trip to the lodge to give support to the pledges. That same weekend, Ken Clar '14, Andy Lane '12, Nick Skiviat '12, Bill Worms '12, and I attended the Manresa 20 Retreat through Campus Ministry. The retreat focused on Ignatian Spirituality and the Principle and Foundation. Each retreat gave brothers a chance to relax and reflect, something that does not happen enough in the hectic day-to-day schedules we all have.



*Brothers who attended the Manresa 20 Retreat:
K. Clar, B. Worms, A. Lane, J. Jackson, N. Skiviat*

Through the Eyes of a Child has become an annual event that Beta co-sponsors, and this year it will be on December 3rd. With the work of seniors Nick Skiviat and Greg Sloat, it is sure to be a success.

Weekend retreats and service projects aren't the only thing the brothers have done this semester, though. Fundraising at Cedar Point, mixing with Gamma Phi Beta and Kappa Alpha Theta sororities, our Parents Barbeque, and Initiation have kept members busy.

This year the chapter did something a bit different for Initiation. In celebration of the largest pledge class in the chapter's history, Eta Epsilon initiated its 14 new members on Friday evening, November 18 in the Hall of Chapters and then spent the night at nearby Hueston Woods State Park resort. The following day, the chapter enjoyed a tour of the Administrative Office as well as Miami of Ohio's campus, and had lunch together in Oxford. It was a significant change in the normal initiation weekend, but it turned out to be more enjoyable and relaxing.

As new leaders step up, it is always great to reflect on the impressive work that the current board has done. A big "thank you" to the current executive team: vice president Dan Imfeld '13, treasurer Chris Saniuk '12, secretary Joel Baker '14, risk manager Bence Toth '14, recruitment chairman Ken Clar '14, member educator Greg Sloat '12, ritual chairman Brian Pestotnik '12, and scholarship chairman Ben Rossi '13. Without the help and hard work of these men as well as the Cabinet committee, I couldn't do my job and the chapter wouldn't function. Great work, gentlemen! Upon elections, the new executive team will be working to finalize the 2012 budget and name the new Cabinet officers.

Amid all the business ahead, we are still looking forward and preparing for our annual philanthropy event, Carroll's Got Talent, which will be held on Friday, January 27, 2012 at 7 p.m. in Kulas Auditorium. All proceeds will go directly to our philanthropy, Milestones Autism Organization.

On behalf of the chapter, I wish everyone a very happy Holiday Season. May you cherish the time with your loved ones and continue to give thanks for all of the blessings in our lives.

Monsters Game Alumni Event

Alumni relations chairman Stephen Fedyk '12 organized an alumni event in which three collegiate members bonded with five Beta alumni at a Lake Erie Monsters hockey game at Quicken Loans Arena on November 11. Together, they cheered the Monsters on to a 4-1 victory over the San Antonio Rampage.

The event was "a great time, allowing active brothers to bond with alumni and advisors, while having the opportunity to share stories and favorite memories," said Brother McCandless.

The Beta crew enjoyed dollar dog night and their prime seats. They were able to hear about each other's new endeavors in grad school and in work, and get up to date on each other's personal lives.

As the evening came to a close, they were all glad to share in the experience, and hope to reconnect in the near future.

The brothers would like to thank everyone who could attend, and the alumni relations committee hopes more alumni can attend future events.



L-R: Joe Chinnici, Jon McCandless, Kyle Sobh, Christopher Shaheen, Kurt Hauber, Steve Fedyk, Ben Lupica, Brandon Sheil.



A family affair – the Sloats at this year's Parents Barbeque: Nancy, Jennifer, Jeff, Greg, Marybeth Stucker (Greg's girlfriend), and Sammy.

Parents' Club Update

Nancy Sloat, Parents' Club Moderator

Fall time is always an exciting time of the year for the Betas! Formal recruitment takes place and the part the parents like the most – the Beta parent barbeque! This year's barbeque was fantastic as usual! Dan Imfeld did a great job organizing this year's event. As I looked around the room, I was excited to see so many new faces, both new Betas and their parents. I thought to myself, "I wonder if all these new families realize how lucky they are to be a part of Beta?"

Within the next few weeks, I will be sending the new Beta parents a welcome letter. We are excited to have a new group of Beta parents and would like to invite them to our parent group. An updated Beta list will be sent out to all active Betas. I encourage all to reach out to new Beta parents. Maybe there is someone who lives in your area. It would be nice to send them a quick e-mail.

I wish all of our Beta families joyous holidays! Enjoy the season with family, friends, and of course, Betas!



Mutual Assistance ★ ★ ★ Intellectual Growth ★ ★ ★ Trust ★ ★ ★ Responsible Conduct ★ ★ ★ Integrity



BETA THETA PI
— MEN OF PRINCIPLE —

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Dan Imfeld '13
Vice President

Chris Saniuk '12
Treasurer

Joel Baker '14
Secretary

Nick Fill '14
Public Relations Chair

Visit *JCUBetas* on:



Want to GO BETA? Know someone who does? Visit www.jcubetas.org/recruitment for information on joining our ranks as part of the Theta Class!