

Alpha Tau Alumnus to Receive Prestigious Atlanta Award!

Charles R. "Charlie" Brown will be this year's recipient of the Council for Quality Growth's Button Gwinnett Award on September 23, 2004. Brown was a driving force behind the Atlantic Station project, now underway in Midtown.

The council's annual event, in its 15th year, honors a member of the community for his/her unselfish dedication of time and resources to the good of the Atlanta metropolitan area through their professional or volunteer involvement.

"We are both thrilled and privileged to honor such an influential individual as Charlie Brown at this year's Button Gwinnett tribute," said T. Michael Tennant, chairman of the council.

Brown, chairman of CRB Realty Associates, recently retired from Jacoby Development Inc. on the Atlantic Steel redevelopment project — Atlantic Station — where he also served as vice chairman. Brown played a major role in the Atlantic Station concept, design and regulatory approvals for the project as a whole.

Brown was also key in the construction and design of the 17th Street bridge and the new 500,000-square-foot SouthTrust Office Tower, both recently completed and opened; as well as John's Creek and Technology Park/Atlanta, a 600-acre office park in Peachtree Corners.

Most recently, Brown was the winner of the Atlanta Business Chronicle's Best in Atlanta 2002 Visionary Award.

Brown has served as Gwinnett County's representative on the MARTA board of directors, as well as president of the Georgia Tech Foundation. ■



THE ALPHA TAU KUR

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October 2004

Alpha Tau of
Kappa Sigma

Alpha Taus Were Among the Buzz Pioneers

Buzz wasn't born in a boardroom. The sneaker-wearing, larger-than-life mascot was the brainchild of an enterprising student, Richie Bland (AP '81). This fall, the yellow jacket in tights turns 25.

Bland sketched a yellow jacket mascot on a bar napkin, and he and his roommate found a costume designer at Six Flags who agreed to make the furry yellow jacket for \$1,400. Bland was responsible for making sure the bill was paid. By the spring of 1980, Bland/Buzz was an official member of the Tech cheerleading squad.

Before he got out of Tech, Bland wanted to ensure that Buzz would continue to fly. He passed the wings on to a friend, **Jeff Cooper '85**, who filled the sneakers as Tech's second Buzz in 1981-82. Jeff was an Alpha Tau initiated in 1981.

"After doing Buzz, I created the audition process and got judges. I was the one who started the two Buzzes because there was so much to do," Cooper said.

He said the Buzz pass through the stands also began with him. Other "beehaviors" would come later. "Back then we didn't score very many points, so I didn't do pushups or anything like that."

Because Cooper was the lone Buzz, he rallied the crowds throughout the games even on the hottest of Atlanta days. But he didn't mind.

"I remember standing in the center of the field when the wave was going around the stadium. Being able to have that view was incredible," he said.

"Buzz is my claim to fame. When people find it out, they think it's the coolest thing in the world."

For Mike and **John Kluber '85**, Buzz was a family "beesiness." John was initiated into Alpha Tau in 1981. He wore the suit from 1982 to 1984, followed by brother Mike (EE '87) from 1985 to 1987.

"I would definitely say I was the first one to dive over the press table," John said. "I was in the tunnel, and it was a big game. I just bolted out of there, got up high and did a dive into a roll. The crowd gets you motivated. There's no fear, no pain."

But there was some embarrassment, John said. "We had to go buy our own tights. It's kinda weird for a 21-year-old guy to go and figure out what size tights to buy."

While John has no scars from his Buzz days, Mike does. He messed up his knee doing his signature Buzz move — hurdling the press table.

"My wife (Renee Richard Kluber, Mgt '87) dogs me pretty good about my old mascot injury," said Mike, who also has a scar on his chin where he split it open during the Tip-Off Classic. ■

"We had to go buy our own tights. It's kinda weird for a 21-year-old guy to go and figure out what size tights to buy."

— John Kluber '85

Alpha Tau Brothers Forming New Engineering Firm

Drew Philippo '92 and **Justin Tracy '95** are forming an MEP engineering consulting firm.

Justin has been in Virginia for the past six years, the last two and a half years as branch manager for a large engineering firm. Looking to start his own business and to hopefully move back south, Justin sent an e-mail searching for interested participants.

Drew was working as a project manager with a local electrical contractor for two years and was also looking to go out on his own. He wanted to get back to the engineering side of the business. Justin and Drew had worked together (along with Steve Gaddy, the new company's third partner) at Pond & Company, a local architectural and engineering firm.

When Drew got Justin's e-mail, he had been talking to Steve about starting a firm. It was too much of a coincidence and,

after some discussion, GTP Consulting Engineers was born.

The company will offer complete mechanical, electrical and plumbing engineering services. All three partners have extensive government design experience and plan to pursue that as a small business. They will also pursue private-sector work with local architects and contractors.

The partners are very interested in working with any brothers in the area who are currently in the field. In addition to the design work, they will also perform electrical engineering studies, something that **Matt Gill '96** and Marshall Hunter '92 (both working for Siemens) got Drew involved with last year.

Drew and Steve are currently setting up the business, with Justin planning on moving back to town around mid-November. ■

Today's Leaders — Yesterday's Greeks

Fraternities have long been a breeding ground for leaders — and will continue to be, thanks to the vast array of leadership programs available today.

If you look around at the leaders in your company, your community and beyond, chances are you might find a fellow alumnus of a Greek society. In January of this year, Forbes.com published an article entitled "Best Fraternities for Future CEOs." The article lists the 10 largest Forbes 500 American companies that have CEOs with roots in a fraternity. In the top spot is Citigroup, number one in the Forbes 500 ranking, with CEO Sanford Weill, who was in Alpha Epsilon Pi. Weill has also appeared on other Forbes lists such as the 400 Richest Americans, America's Most Powerful People and World's Richest People.

Next on the lineup is Maurice Greenberg, CEO of American International Group, which is number four on the Forbes 500 list. Greenberg was in Sigma Alpha Mu, and he has appeared on the same Forbes lists as Weill.

Pretty impressive, right? The Forbes.com article goes on to add more impressive details about the leadership roles of Greeks in our world. As the article says, "Not only have fraternities been the breeding ground of those 120 Forbes 500 chief executive officers, they also have spawned 48% of all U.S. presidents, 42% of U.S. senators, 30% of congressmen, and 40% of U.S. Supreme Court justices." (These figures are based on 7,533 responses.)

The Breeding Ground

Back in the '60s and in eras before that, leading a fraternity or sorority was kind of a "seat-of-the-pants" job. You might have gotten a little help from within the chapter, you might have

learned from the trials and tribulations of past presidents, and maybe you got a little advice from alumni or a national chapter.

Not so today.

The world is more complex, life is a little more challenging and college campuses have issues that wouldn't even have crossed your mind 20 years ago. Hence, a tremendous foundation of leadership training opportunities have developed over the last 10 years or so. These programs exist at a variety of levels, from national independent organizations to the colleges themselves. Here's a brief glimpse at merely a handful of programs that are helping to guarantee the continued development of tomorrow's leaders:

- The Undergraduate Interfraternity Institute (UIFI) is a program sponsored by the National Interfraternity Council (NIC). UIFI is a five-day intensive educational program whose curriculum is intended to help students "make a difference in their Greek communities."
- Almost every national association has a leadership training program, like Alpha Tau Omega's Noah's Ark. This is a five-day leadership experience that takes fraternity members "deep in the Rocky Mountains and deeper within yourself by focusing on issues of character, integrity, and faith."
- Greek life departments at universities around the country also promote leadership training. Ohio State University had their fourth annual Buckeye Greek Leadership Institute (BGLI) in April of this year. The weekend retreat was "created for emerging leaders in the Greek community and, in its fourth year, continues to be a powerful experience..."
- Student life organizations are also on the leadership bandwagon. MIT has

a program called "I'm In! Now What Do I Do?" which focuses on strategies for "Emerging Leaders of Fraternities, Sororities or Living Groups." This two-hour program is intended to be a fun, interactive way to give freshmen and sophomores some insight on their leadership personality and organizational skills, while helping them prepare to take leadership roles within their groups.

- Within each fraternity and sorority is strong pride of being the best possible leaders, especially with the challenges that face students today. At the University of Arizona in Tucson, fraternity presidents from across the campus meet every two weeks to discuss Greek life and campus problems; as one president put it in relation to a discussion on how to end hazing, "We compare notes, successful strategies, ways to get our point across to our members, and we hire experts such as Dr. Ron Binder to come educate us about stopping hazing completely." Make no mistake about it, our future leaders can be found right where you were a few years ago. These young adults will emerge equally as strong, if not stronger, than the Weills and the Greenbergs of today's world. And we will be proud to say they are our sisters and brothers. ■

The Benefits of a Greek Life

With their article, **Forbes.com** included the survey question, "How do fraternities and sororities most help college graduates climb the corporate ranks?" Here are the responses:

Forming social skills 46%
Providing alumni network. 34%
Shaping moral character. 14%
Not much help 7%



Many Successes Last Year, Many More to Come This Year

We are at the beginning of another benchmark year here at the Alpha Tau Chapter of Kappa Sigma.

Over the summer, with the help of the housing corporation, we began to greatly improve the condition of the house. This work was expanded upon during our annual workweek in the beginning of August.

Upon completion of the summer semester, Alpha Tau had earned a house average GPA of 3.06 and had completed a successful summer rush.

At the national Leadership Conference held in June, Alpha Tau took home the Founders Award of Chapter Excellence, or FACE. We were one of 12 chapters nationwide to receive this prestigious award that recognizes all the hard work of our chapter through scholastics, philanthropy and chapter initiatives throughout the year.

With the onset of the fall semester,

we held a successful rush, resulting in our chapter having the third most across campus by pledging 25 quality men. We initiated a total of 17 outstanding men last year and have increased our numbers this year, as we had set out to do.

As part of this year's home-game activities, this new pledge class will be hosting cookouts before every game. We encourage alumni to come and meet our pledges, and share in good times while enjoying a beer and a burger. So don't miss out on an exciting football season against opponents such as Miami, Virginia Tech, U.Va., Samford, U.Conn, and Duke for homecoming!

This year's homecoming on October 16 will be even greater than the last. Under the vision and guidance of our homecoming chairs, graduating seniors **Craig Jones** and **Kevin Dee**, we are making preparations to come in first place after our third place overall last

year. We will be having our usual barbecue meal provided by the pledges and our very own graduating **Jim Turner** again this homecoming afternoon before the game.

We have already begun provisions and making way for our famous display and wreck that earned us first place last year thanks to many brothers' hard work and efforts, including those of **Chris Vale**, **Jonathan Langston**, **Ken Helfrich** and many others.

We pride ourselves on our various efforts for homecoming across the board, so be sure and see our hard work and accomplishments this year before the Duke game!

This will be a great year for all Alpha Taus of Kappa Sigma, alumni and undergraduates alike!

Fraternally,
The Brothers of the Alpha Tau of Kappa Sigma Fraternity ■

Surprising Facts About the Greek System (that you won't see in the news!)

Fraternities and sororities make up a long-standing community that makes countless contributions to the lives of its members. The Greek community is:

- The largest and most visible values-based organization on college campuses;
- The most successful leadership development program available to college students;
- The largest network of volunteers in the United States, logging 10 million hours of community service per year;
- The largest not-for-profit student landlord, owning and managing \$3 billion in student housing for 250,000 students in 8,000 facilities.

Contributions to your fraternity reflect the impact of your own Greek experience as well as the promise that the Greek community holds for the future of so many other young people.

Alumni UpDates

Fredrick L. Jones '51

(18505 Georgia Hwy. 219, West Point, GA 31833-8636; fljones@d.comm.net) I retired in 1989 after 38 years with General Electric and now live on the old family farm south of LaGrange, Georgia. I have sold my cows now, so I mainly work on my Model-T Fords and play golf twice a week. Thank God for good health so far. I was at the 50th class reunion of the class of 1951 but only saw one or two Kappa Sigs. I would love to hear from any of you from that era.

Dean J. Lennard '53

(10126 Woodfern Way, Cincinnati, OH 45242-5940; djl10126@att.net) In November 1953, I was inducted into the Georgia Tech Engineering Hall of Fame. I pledged Alpha Tau in 1949 and received my bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering in 1953, and began a 39-year career with General Electric in Cincinnati, Ohio. During a military leave of absence, I served from 1955 to 1957 in an Army artillery missile battalion, ultimately as a battery (company) commander. My GE career included senior engineering management positions in the development of military engines for the C5, B1, B2 and F16, and commercial engines and thrust-

reverser systems. I also held various project management positions, including program general manager for the prototype of the engine that GE proposed for the Advanced Tactical Fighter. I ultimately served for eight years as general manager with technical and financial responsibility for GE's CF6 engine product lines, which achieved market dominance as the propulsion systems for the B747/B767, A300/A310/A330 and DC10/MD11 commercial aircraft. I retired from GE in 1992. In 1997, I was inducted into the GE Aircraft Engine's Propulsion Hall of Fame in recognition of my contributions of lasting importance and significance to the aircraft engine industry. In retirement, I have served on a National Research Council committee in support of the FAA for improving the continued airworthiness of civil aircraft.

David W. Jeffrey '57

(30 Dogwood Rdg., Eureka Springs, AR 72632-9568; djeffrey@ipa.net) Enjoying retirement, but still keeping awfully busy. I am chair of the board of directors of the chamber of commerce (600 members), chair of the board of trustees of a small independent school for students in K-12 (clearspringschool.org), raising sugar cane in south Louisiana and developing subdivi-

(Continued on Page 4)

Alumni UpDates ... continued

sions on the Mississippi gulf coast. My wife and I recently went on a five-day steamboat cruise on the Mississippi River with **Bill Williams '57** and his wife. We travel often to New Orleans, where we have a second home. I would love to hear from Kappa Sigma brothers.

John W. Coulborn '63

(7016 Sunday Pl., Fort Worth, TX 76133; jwcoulborn@charter.net) Still living in Fort Worth. Bought a home with a pool, something I said I would never own. Never say "never." Still involved in serious photography and planning to do this fulltime when I retire in the next two years. Finding digital format very interesting.

Stephen C. Perry '64

(152 Lakemont Dr., Shelby, NC 28150-8326; sct05323548@earthlink.net) Early in 2004, I accepted a position as professor of finance at Wofford College in Spartanburg, South Carolina. Although it means a 42-mile one-way commute, Bonnie and I continue to live on Moss Lake in Shelby, North Carolina. Our two children and six grandchildren are healthy and progressing in careers and schooling. Wofford has a Kappa Sigma chapter. I plan to check it out this fall.

Aubrey P. Watson '64

(1708 Willow Wind Cir., Richmond, VA 23233; aubrey.watson@longandfoster.com) I am now on my third career. My wife and I have been the top-producing real estate team in the Richmond area

for the last three years. She promises I can retire for real sometime.

Robert D. Allen '65

(275 Hunting Creek Dr., Marietta, GA 30068-3419; mdrm4479@cs.com) I retired from Lockheed Martin in November 1999 after 33 years. I enjoy traveling with my wife, Marion (our 37th anniversary was in June 2004), and we have taken recent trips to Hilton Head, Ft. Myers and Baton Rouge. I also enjoy playing golf, volunteering for church projects and being a granddad. Our son, Robbie, has been married for 11 years to Melissa, and they are expecting their fourth child. Daughter, Mary (UGA '99), is teaching in Gwinett County.

George S. McCoy '66

(2913 Highway 15 N., Sandersville, GA 31082; scottymc@accucomm.net) I have a new granddaughter, Tatom Hoffman, born March 3, 2004, in Hawaii to my daughter, Meredith. I also have two grandsons in Atlanta — Cooper (4) and Carson (1) — children of my son, Chris.

Charles H. Spiggle '92

(301 E. 87th St., Apt. 24D, New York, NY 10128; chspiggle@yahoo.com) It's a boy! I would like to introduce the newest member of the Spiggle team, our all-star rookie, Jackson Chiles Spiggle. Player stats: Born May 4, 2004, weighing 7 pounds and 7 ounces, 20 inches long. Team coach and team manager, Charles and Kelly, are thrilled with the new addition to the team. Baby brother joins cheerleader big sister Caroline Elizabeth at home in NYC. Go Jackets!

James D. Harden '96



(4269 Ivywood Dr., Marietta, GA 30062; harden2@att.net) Heather and I are proud to announce the birth of our daughter, Samantha Jane Harden. She was born at 5:04 p.m. on May 19, 2004.

Charles A. McPhail '96

(1603 Brooke Street Canton, GA 30115; mcphails@bellsouth.net) Shana and I are thrilled to announce the birth of our son, William Brett (Brett), on August 20, 2003. He came in at 6 lb., 13 oz. and 20.5" long. All are very healthy and doing well, and Emily, our 18-month-old daughter, is slowly adjusting to her little brother.



Shana and I also recently bought a house in Canton.

Welcome, Brett McPhail
(3 days old)

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