



## Delta Sigma Phi Epsilon Beta

University of Wisconsin Oshkosh  
Summer Newsletter  
**2004**

**Joshua Thurmer**  
President  
[thurmj33@mio.uwosh.edu](mailto:thurmj33@mio.uwosh.edu)

**Nick Rusch**  
Vice President  
[ruschn29@uwosh.edu](mailto:ruschn29@uwosh.edu)

**Tim Curless**  
Treasurer  
[curlet91@mio.uwosh.edu](mailto:curlet91@mio.uwosh.edu)

**Ben Potter**  
Secretary  
[potteb10@uwosh.edu](mailto:potteb10@uwosh.edu)

**Justin Bangert**  
Sergeant at Arms  
[jaspermgn@yahoo.com](mailto:jaspermgn@yahoo.com)

**Victor Alatorre**  
Chapter Advisor  
(Newsletter and Web Editor)  
[Alatov95@mio.uwosh.edu](mailto:Alatov95@mio.uwosh.edu)

**Scott Bucklin**  
ACB President  
[ssbucklin@aol.com](mailto:ssbucklin@aol.com)

**James Rath**  
Newsletter and Alumni Contributor  
[jrath@new.rr.com](mailto:jrath@new.rr.com)  
920-989-3629



This newsletter made possible by the donation of **Dennis Larsen**: EB chapter alumnus, former ACB president and owner of "The Pool Center, LLC." of Oshkosh.  
920-235-5661  
[www.thepoolcenter.com](http://www.thepoolcenter.com)

## Year Report

By Scott Bucklin, ACB President

*Great times, Fun activities, Old stories, New stories, A fun group, A lot accomplished.*

These are but a few ways to describe the past year. The actives have put much effort into building a great chapter. Having attended several of their meetings, I am pleased to report that the group has strong leadership, enthusiasm, and the desire to get things done for the benefit of the chapter.

Josh Thurmer was recently elected as chapter president, replacing Ross McDowell who graduated this spring. Though these names may not be familiar to you, let me say the feeling I get is the chapter truly is looking for strong leaders and they are finding them. Most of the membership is on at least one committee. Weekly meetings often have 100% participation. Fundraising efforts are creative and continual. Alumni participation has been welcomed and embraced.

We have stood up to the test of the University and are gearing up to meet even higher standards, which have been mandated. Much interest revolved around the meetings held this past February. It was found that some other Greek organizations on campus did not have their priorities in the right place and they are now suffering the consequences. When we were evaluated, compliments came in many areas, and the few recommendations for improvement we received are already being implemented.

Simply put, all Greek organizations will soon be required to have a collective GPA above the "all men's" or "all women's" average on campus. That average is currently at or about 2.7, which is a B-/C+ to those of us with a few gray whiskers. Our guys have raised their already established academic standards to meet and exceed this goal. Every Active now knows that the standard must be met, all potential pledges will be looked at with GPA as a consideration during Rush.

Now, for the fun stuff.  
**Homecoming is:**  
(write this down and tell your wife)...

**October 16<sup>th</sup> against**  
UW-Platteville.

This year we are celebrating the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 1984 re-chartering.

8:30 am	ACB Meeting
9-9:30 am	Parade
10:30-1 pm	All Alumni and Family gathering at the house
1pm	Football game
4pm	5th quarter
Evening - Dinner/Dance (Note there will be an 80's alumni gathering in addition to the Actives' gathering)	

Brothers will be flying in from all over to attend this celebration, so make your plans and come to visit. While you have your calendar open, next year is our 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of being Brothers of Delta Sigma Phi. We wanted to give the guys

from the 60's and 70's plenty of time to plan, so please do so and we'll look forward to seeing you here in Oshkosh.

Please feel free to contact me at anytime regarding events, concerns, or other questions you may have.

## The Pearl of Great Price

By Jim Rath and Mike Robillard

We have all benefited in many ways from our association with our fraternity over the years. Hundreds of leaders have been born, thousands of friends have been made and the men of our house have performed good works benefiting countless causes. It is a valuable legacy that we all want to see continued.

The time has come to funnel all of our ideas, efforts and fundraising into a real plan powered by that goal most important to us all: a highly respected, well managed, and sustainable Epsilon Beta chapter house of Delta Sigma Phi at UW-Oshkosh.

Our challenge is two fold: We need to raise money, and we need to use it in an organized, effective way to reach our goal.

**Raising the Money.** The idea is to create three opportunities for giving so that alumni, parents, undergraduates and friends of Delta Sigma Phi can support this legacy, which has been a big part of all of our lives. We need to build a list of lifetime givers, annual donors and other supporters. This will require real organization, tracking, thanking and communication. The three opportunities are:

**1. The Housing Fund:** Buying or building a terrific chapter house can make all the difference in attracting the top undergrads to our fraternity. The house is the heart of the chapter and it is essential to reaching our goals. We currently have \$20,000 in the fund, but we will need \$50,000 at least.

**2. The Delta Sigma Phi Foundation:** This will partially fund our undergrads involvement in the National Convention, and other events promoting Engineered Leadership beyond the state of Wisconsin. Strong links to National will help promote leaders and greatly improve our chances for sustainability.

**3. The Delta Sigma Phi Scholarship Fund within the UW-O Foundation:** We have set up a fund within the UW-O Foundation that will award undergrad members of epsilon beta a free semester of rent providing they are living in the chapter house and they have achieved a 3.5 GPA while taking a minimum of 16 credits. This kind of award should greatly encourage top-notch students to join DSP and encourage all members to live in the house.

Last year, we the brothers of Delta Sigma Phi Epsilon Beta chapter established not one but two perpetual funds for the needs of our undergraduate brothers. The only shame is that we had not done this sooner. The first established was with Delta Sigma Phi Fraternity Epsilon Beta Chapter fund and the second was established with UW Oshkosh Epsilon Beta Fund. 4% of the endowment can be issued to deserving members of the fraternity. Obviously,

we are seeking additional donors. I am very proud of all of you who have given to both these funds. We are one of the first chapters in the country to establish these scholarships and I hope you are as proud as I am that we have accomplished the preliminary goal of reaching the first plateau that allows us to disburse monies from these funds. I hope you will consider contributing to these two tax-deductible funds.

**Using the Money Effectively.** We will need lots of help making sure the collected money is used with our big, long-term goals in mind. There are hundreds of DSP alumni from UW-O who could be active givers if they feel confident that there are real, attainable goals in place and that they will hear on a regular basis how their contributions are helping reach those goals. We need to do the following:

1. Create yearly goals for each of these three "giving opportunities" and communicate effectively how we do against these goals.

2. Create a solid plan today with a timeline on how to approach buying or building a chapter house. Get the National fraternity and UW-Oshkosh involved? Focus our energies on a plan that can be reached in 2-3 years and build some excitement.

3. Continue to use the Internet to expand our "giving" base and create excitement with alumni. Use the Internet to discuss goals and plans in an organized way.

Our commitment is our concern for the future seen through the eyes of DSP men over the decades. The strength of our brotherhood is the bond that will unite us all in reaching the goal of having the best chapter in the country. We can do it if we do it together.

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## Chapter Report

By Joshua Thurmer, Chapter President

When I came to Oshkosh, I was against the very idea of fraternities, and I certainly was not interested in joining. My opinion of fraternities changed with time, and I was welcomed into the brotherhood of Delta Sigma Phi in the Fall of 2002. Joining the brotherhood was, without a doubt, the best decision I have made in my life. When I graduate in May, I know I will continue to enjoy the eternal bonds of friendship, brotherhood and loyalty of the brothers of Delta Sigma Phi for the rest of my life.

After serving as the chapter treasurer, I had the honor of being elected as chapter president for the 2004-2005 school year. The chapter executive board realizes the main point of our brotherhood is to have fun, but we will not allow ourselves to lose sight of the real reason we are in school: successfully obtaining our academic degrees.

To improve the chapter's bonds of brotherhood, I have reactivated the position of "Brotherhood Chairman." This chairman will plan brother and alumni-only events with the goal of bringing the brothers closer together.

The Engineered Leadership chairman will again provide oversight for all other committees.

In the past year, the university has put strict guidelines on recruitment. The new candidates for membership will have to meet two of these standards: At least 12 UWO credits, a 21 on the ACT, top 50% of their high school class, or a year of military service. These new standard will hopefully increase the quality of men we will bring into the fraternity.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Ross McDowell for his contribution to Epsilon Beta. During his presidency, he kept the fraternity together while the university was threatening our very existence. Over this past summer, Ross has open Movin' Shoes of Fox Valley on Main Street in Oshkosh. I wish him all the best and success in the future.

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## News from the 70's

By Jim Rath

Having first attended UW Oshkosh in the spring of '71, it continues to amaze me the contacts I have made and truly special bonds that have occurred because of my involvement with the fraternity. I thank each and every one of you for making that involvement special.

It was nice to hear from Dave Witte and John Close after not having contact with them in recent times. Running into John Francois, Gary VanSistine, Leo Lamers, Mike Jung, Leon Thompson, Jim Buehner, Dick Heinz, Mike Klaus, Dave Lodes, and Tim Berner--the list goes on and on. The memories become more positive as the years go by. As we celebrate significant milestones in the next 16 months, I hope you will take the time to ideally stop in at one of the events mentioned or sent an e-mail or card let us know what you are up to. Brother, if you can spare a dime, we now have a tax-deductible way to help the chapter survive in the 21st century.

Stopping to visit at the chapter house means a lot to the men inside. These guys are probably the best true students that we have had in at least a decade. Here is a partial list of some upcoming events:

### October 16, 2004: 20th Anniversary celebration of re-chartering of the Epsilon Beta Chapter.

The following people have confirmed that they will attend the 20th Anniversary Alumni Reunion. Tom Krueger, John Kelly, Joe Kelley, Tom Hempel, Mark Connolly, Ron Vallone, Eric Hafsoos, Tom Counts, Jeff Commer, Steve Hartziem, Dan Dettlaff, Julian Gladney, Pete Geske, Mark Devita, Scott Bucklin, Bob Grybowski, Dave "Frog" Johnson, Tim Dewitz, Jim Klatt, David Lemkuil, and Larry Harvey.

This event will be sponsored for all brothers initiated in the 1980's. Join your fraternity brothers to re-live the 80's while re-connecting with old friends.

Look for your invitation in the mail or contact Tom Krueger at: tomnjoell@aol.com or John Kelly at: johnkelly2@comcast.net

**Memorial Day 2005 Celebration at "Heroes Bar" in Green Bay.** This bar is owned by Pat Coniff aka: "Condor Numero Uno." Pat is hoping to work with Gary Van Sistine and have another successful weekend party in downtown Green Bay. This will be the kickoff event to 40 years of the history of Delta Sigma Phi Epsilon Beta Chapter. Two years ago, we had brothers appear from the 60s, 70s, 80s, 90s and even a couple from the 2000. Coniff, Van Sistine and co. did an outstanding job of putting this together in 2003 and I can't wait to attend this event in 2005.

Finally, in October of 2005 at Homecoming, we hope to wrap up the year with a fitting celebration of 40 years of Delta Sigma Phi in Oshkosh. Hope to see you all there.

Check out the Epsilon Beta Chapter Web Site: <http://www.uwosh.edu/deltasigs>

## Treasurer's Summer Report

By Tim Curless, Chapter Treasurer

I am the treasurer for Epsilon Beta for the 2004 - 2005 school year. I hope that the summer has been going well for everyone. I have been looking forward to the upcoming year and getting right into it with Delta Sigma Phi.

I'm a junior working on degrees in Computer Science and Physics. I'm a member of the Alpha Pi pledge class (fall of 2003). The fraternity has been a great influence on me therefore I am looking forward to contributing to the financial stability of the chapter. We have a good plan to manage our financials, thus expect to make incredible progress in the upcoming year.

We will implement a strict due collection process, precise record-keeping and careful planning. Bi-weekly budget reports will be available to any brother or active alumni. I will also be working with our fundraising chairmen to ensure success.

We will reduce our social load. Limiting ourselves will help us to retain money for the larger events and other perks of the fraternity.

My last big goal will be to really create a positive environment for alumni. I want to make the fraternity an organization that alumni want to come back and support. Making sure all the planning is done in advance will make things much smoother the night of the event. I plan to work closely with the ACB to find out what it is alumni really want to see the chapter provide and accomplish.

I will be readily available to address any concerns I can, financial or otherwise. If you need to get in touch with me, e-mail me at:

[curllet91@mio.uwosh.edu](mailto:curllet91@mio.uwosh.edu).

I hope everyone has a great rest of the summer, and returns to campus ready to make this a positive year for Epsilon Beta.

## Alumni News

By Victor Alatorre

### Scott Bucklin [ssbucklin@aol.com](mailto:ssbucklin@aol.com)

Scott is a quality manager for GM in Janesville WI. Last year, he was elected president of ACB. During the year, he has worked with the chapter on several scholarship and housing projects. He has been donating a lot of time and money to Epsilon Beta. He also wanted to thank the brothers for the words of kindness and support during the loss of his son Jack on June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2004.

### Victor Alatorre [alatorre95@uwosh.edu](mailto:alatorre95@uwosh.edu)

I recently married Amy Koshollek (ΣΣΣ) in Oshkosh. I continue to work for Residence Life at UW Oshkosh as a Computer Manager.

### Matthew Krenke [mkrenke@yahoo.com](mailto:mkrenke@yahoo.com)

His family, including brother Aaron (Φ pledge class, fall of '93), recently started a "Figaro's Pizza" Franchise in the east side of Appleton. He continues to work for First National Bank as a mortgage officer.

### Gary Keesling [Gary.G.Keesling@Thrivent.com](mailto:Gary.G.Keesling@Thrivent.com)

His wife Nicki (ZTA) had a baby girl named Taylor Lee on March 30<sup>th</sup> of this year. He continues to be a financial associate for Thrivent Financial for Lutherans.

### John Kelly [kona-1@comcast.net](mailto:kona-1@comcast.net)

John is planning the 1984-88 alumni reunion in Oshkosh. He will be in touch with you. ☺

### Brad Heutmaker [bradheutmaker@yahoo.com](mailto:bradheutmaker@yahoo.com)

Brad recently moved to Washington, D.C. to accept a management position with his current employer, the University of Phoenix – Maryland.

### Benjamin Bollenbacher [bbollen@kcc.com](mailto:bbollen@kcc.com)

Ben works for Kimberly-Clark in Appleton as an IT project manager. His wife Molly recently gave birth to their first baby, a girl named Olivia.

### Andrew Benisch [benisa44@hotmail.com](mailto:benisa44@hotmail.com)

He is a high school teacher in Janesville, pursuing his Masters at UW Whitewater.

### Adam Machotka [amachotka@mtaonline.com](mailto:amachotka@mtaonline.com)

He works in West Allis for Midwest Title and Closings as an Account Manager.

### Shane Anderson

[Shane.Anderson@RedPrairie.com](mailto:Shane.Anderson@RedPrairie.com)

Shane is a consultant and project manager for Red Prairie (a logistics software developer) in the Milwaukee area. Shane is currently working on an implementation project for "Frito Lay de Mexico."

### Mike All [michael.all@halo29.com](mailto:michael.all@halo29.com)

Mike continues to be a Network consultant in Milwaukee.

### Chuck Milam [chuck@milams.net](mailto:chuck@milams.net)

Chuck is now working as a Linux systems and network administrator with Anteon Corporation, on a contract with the 101st Airborne Division Warfighter (Digital Battle Simulation) Center at Fort Campbell, Kentucky. He is also starting his law degree at the Nashville School of Law in Nashville, Tennessee. <http://chuck.milams.net>

### Richard Bidwell [rbidwell@charter.net](mailto:rbidwell@charter.net)

He lives in Waupaca, and continues to be very involved with the University's Alumni Association.

### Scott Gurholt [sgurholt@hntb.com](mailto:sgurholt@hntb.com)

Scott is getting married to Helen at the end of August in Milwaukee. His brother Eric recently organized a bachelor event in Oshkosh.

### Doug DeRosier [derosier@hotmail.com](mailto:derosier@hotmail.com)

He is an account manager for Esker software in Madison, Wisconsin. His company develops special scanning and terminal emulation software. He continues to run Apex Technologies, hardware and IT services company on a part time basis.

### Mark Novell [mnovell@ufpi.com](mailto:mnovell@ufpi.com)

On February 16<sup>th</sup>, Mark's wife Umi had a baby girl named Natalie Boucher Novell.

### Larry Baier [Larry.Baier@eams.com](mailto:Larry.Baier@eams.com)

Larry is a PeopleSoft developer for American Medical Security in Green Bay. He lives in Appleton with wife Karla.

### Brent Seifert [bseifert@mcw.edu](mailto:bseifert@mcw.edu)

Lives in Milwaukee, works for Medical college of Wisconsin as a LAN manager.

### Rick Lee [rick@karileeappraisals.com](mailto:rick@karileeappraisals.com)

Moved in December 2003 to Lady Lake, Florida to pursue a home appraisal business. Their website is very nice! ☺  
<http://www.karileeappraisals.com>

### Mark Devita [mdevita@bankfranklin.com](mailto:mdevita@bankfranklin.com)

He is a branch manager for Franklin Bank in North Carolina.

### Dennis Larsen [dlarsen3@new.rr.com](mailto:dlarsen3@new.rr.com)

He currently owns and operates a very successful business: the Pool Center, L.L.C. in Oshkosh. They recently expanded their facility on 9<sup>th</sup> St. He is a major sponsor of this newsletter. (Thank you!)  
<http://www.thepoolcenter.com/>

### Rich Neuman [rhn69@hotmail.com](mailto:rhn69@hotmail.com)

Rich Neumann is getting married at the end of the summer in Milwaukee. He also celebrated his bachelor party in Oshkosh.

### Dave Schwenk [schwenkd@prodigy.net](mailto:schwenkd@prodigy.net)

Dave will marry Amy Mingo in October in Minneapolis. He celebrated his bachelor party in Oshkosh in August.

### Allan Davies [allan.davies@micorp.com](mailto:allan.davies@micorp.com)

In May, his wife Heidi (ZTA) had a baby. He works as an account manager for M&I Bank.

### David Prokop [scoutxo@msn.com](mailto:scoutxo@msn.com)

Dave is a police officer and a tactical unit leader in Wausau, where he lives with his wife and two children. His wife gave birth to their second child in early February 2004.

### Matthew Sohm [msohm@charter.net](mailto:msohm@charter.net)

Matt is moving back to Oshkosh to take a position at Oshkosh North High School as teacher for students with learning disabilities.

### John Close [Closefinishes@aol.com](mailto:Closefinishes@aol.com)

John is a NASCAR journalist and book writer. He lives with his wife, Gail in Charlotte, NC after

moving there from Fort Atkinson, WI in 1994. He was the Sports Editor of the Daily Jefferson County Union, an Associated Press daily newspaper there. His son, Sam, turned 21 on July 17, 2004.

### Mike Morril [brookeandmike@sbcglobal.net](mailto:brookeandmike@sbcglobal.net)

Mike's wife just had their second child on 9/7/2004. Brynn Marie Morrill was born 6 lbs 8 oz. at the Children's Hospital in Neenah.

### Mark Weinfurter

[mdweinfurt@firstcommand.com](mailto:mdweinfurt@firstcommand.com)

He left the army 18 months ago (in good standing of course). He is a financial planner for First Command Financial Planning In Tacoma Washington.

### Eric Johnson [aintlifegrand@centurytel.net](mailto:aintlifegrand@centurytel.net)

He is a firefighter in Vail Colorado. He is an outdoorsy kind of guy and hopes to hear from brothers while in the area.

## Paying the Debt

There is no pretty way of saying this:

*The chapter, our university and our national office need your support. Your donation will be greatly appreciated.*

### For Donations to ACB Housing Fund

Contact: Scott Bucklin, ACB President  
[ssbucklin@aol.com](mailto:ssbucklin@aol.com)

### For Donations to the UW Oshkosh

Foundation:  
<http://www.uwosh.edu/foundation/>

### For Donations to the National Office (now with options to earmark funds for Epsilon Beta Chapter):

<http://www.deltasig.org/foundation/index.html>

### Stay In The Loop!

Check the Epsilon Beta Chapter website for all the latest alumni and chapter news.

<http://www.uwosh.edu/deltasigs/>