

Alpha Tau Omega - Beta Alpha Chapter - Simpson College



RED OWL – SPRING 2009

**New Members, Fall '08**

Junior Class

Tim Lone, Urbandale, IA

Sophomore Class

Ryan Furstaneau, Algona, IA

First-Year Class

Quent Blackford, Hopkins, MO

Nicholas Campbell, Van Meter, IA

Bryce Davis, Ida Grove, IA

Spencer Gardner, Ames, IA

Pat Gerhardt, Algona, IA

Alex Palmquist, West Chester, IA

Mitchell Pitlick, Clear Creek Amana, IA

Bobby Reese, West Des Moines, IA

**New Member, Spring '09**

Chad Onstot, Indianola, IA

**2009 Chapter Officers Elected**

President	Nick White	Grimes, IA
Vice President	Greg Sibbel	Vail, IA
Chaplin	Tyler Ripperger	Indianola, IA
Treasurer	Joe Cummings	Maxwell, IA
Secretary	Eric D'Hooge	Marion, IA
Historian	Von Briese	Norwalk, IA
Public Relations	Tim Lone	Urbandale, IA
Alumni Relations	Alex Palmquist	West Chester, IA
Co-Recruitment	Spencer Gardner	Ames, IA
	Bobby Reese	West Des Moines, IA
Social Service	Pat Gerhardt	Algona, IA

## Beta Alpha wins Homecoming Cup for Fall '08

By. Greg Sibbel, Junior

This past year, the Beta Alpha chapter came together to win the overall competition for homecoming. The new pledge class greatly contributed to the chapter's success while being very active in the various activities and taking initiative to getting involved. The upperclassmen used their experience and creativity with a first place win with a street painting of a Storm tornado sweeping away the Wartburg competition and our second place ranking in the Yell like Hell stomp routine. The chapter demonstrated their physical abilities as well, taking first place in the Olympics. Once all the points were counted up, ATO was determined the champion. In addition to the Homecoming festivities, the house hosted the annual alumni dinner before the game, which brought many former members from years past. The weekend was a success from every angle.

## Senior spends semester at the White House

Senior Joseph Strong

I learned about the Capitol Hill Internship Program through the Registrar in a meeting about picking up an English minor. He essentially told me I would be worthless to just pick up a minor, and told me it would be much more worthwhile getting real experience and making connections. I did some checking in with Simpson students who had been here before through this program before and they all loved it, so I decided to go for it. I applied with a few lobbying firms, the DNC and Senator Grassley, but ultimately decided to work on "The Hill" for Senator Grassley. A big part of what I hoped to get out of this was just being in the city and to experience the election process and all the craziness that is politics. Truthfully, I



never have wanted to go into politics or public service, but I guess the main thing I wanted to get out of it was to make some connections and experience the breadth of what D.C. had to offer. I have worked for the Senate Finance Committee: Oversight and Investigation Branch, which is basically a group of lawyers that provide oversight over government agencies and other large industries. Since I hope to go into law, the experience of being surrounded by very talented lawyers has been priceless. I have also learned a lot about the political process, and how muddled it can become. Some of the Senators I have seen are Obama, McCain, Clinton, John Kerry, Lieberman, Biden, Harkin, Schumer, and Ted Stevens. I was able to go to the vote in the Senate on the bailout, which was very neat.

For the sports fans, I have gone to a Redskins v. Cowboys game which was incredible. I got a tour of the Pentagon where I was able to meet and go into the office of the Chief of Staff of the Air Force. Another highlight was election night, where I was a part of the "unruly" mob outside of the White House. Outside of D.C., I have gone to Annapolis, Atlantic City, Baltimore and Philadelphia, and New York City over Thanksgiving. Overall, this semester has been the best and I am thankful that Simpson College has given me the opportunity to experience it.

## Signature Event, 125<sup>th</sup> Celebration Planning

By Freshman Alex Palmquist

This school year, our chapter has participated in many events and plans to do many more. During homecoming week, we won the homecoming trophy. Most recently, we sent 8 members to the ATO

Regional Leadership Conference, where our brothers gained knowledge in the areas of recruitment, signature events, brotherhood events, and risk management.

We are developing a Big Brother signature event where our members will adopt a little brother from Big Brothers Big Sisters of America. Then in the spring, we will have a carnival inviting all our adopted brothers and their families. We plan to have a free will donation admission to raise funds. Also, we are going to begin having faculty dinners once a month. At these dinners we will invite a few faculty and their families to the house for dinner.

We have also already begun planning for our 125<sup>th</sup> celebration. It is incredible that our chapter has been on campus for 125 years. Bob Mackenzie, one of our alumni, is in the process of compiling a comprehensive history of our chapter. This is a tradition that the other fraternities don't have on campus, and we will be looking forward to its completion.

### **Big Brothers Big Sisters Carnival**

By Junior Tim Lone

The Big Brothers Big Sisters Carnival took place on Sunday May 3, and was a big success for the Beta Alpha Chapter. Dozens of children, along with their big brothers and



big sisters came to the house and participated in a number of events, including kickball, bags, face-painting, putt-putt, ultimate frisbee, and there was also some Guitar Hero competition indoors for those taking a break from warm weather outside.

The event also showed great attendance by our current members of the house, as nearly all of the active

members of the chapter were present, and most participated in the games right along side the kids from Big Brothers Big Sisters.

**Parker Getter Tourney**  
**Tim Lone**

The Parker Getter Tournament was held on Saturday, May 9, in cool, windy conditions at Deer Run Golf Course in Indianola. Twelve foursomes participated in the tournament. Tucker Priebe, Joe Strong, Josh Blackford and Chad Onstot were on the winning team. The Parker Getter Golf Tournament will be held again next spring, so keep an eye out for an announcement.

There was also a gathering afterwards where dinner was served and prizes were awarded. The chapter was also presented with a replica of the Lexington Triad Marker and a proclamation from the rededication ceremony, presented by Jay Byers, a member of the ATO National Board of Directors.

**ANNOUNCING!**



**IOWA BETA ALPHA CHAPTER**  
**125<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**

**FALL 2010**

- \*PLEDGE CLASS REUNIONS**
- \* DISPLAYS FROM “BACK IN THE DAY”**
- \* UPDATED CHAPTER HISTORY BOOK**
- KITCHEN AND CHAPTER ROOM RENOVATIONS**

**\* MORE DETAILS COMING SOON!**

If you would like to donate to the ATO Kitchen Fund, it would be greatly appreciated. Donations can be sent to:

Simpson College, Office of Business and Finance  
c/o ATO Kitchen Fund  
701 North C Street  
Indianola, IA 50125