

HISTORY

Delta Tau Delta was born of the knowledge that integrity is essential. The founding principles of Truth, Courage, Faith and Power have provided a guide for both the Fraternity and its membership.

Since 1858 the Fraternity has spread to nearly 200 campuses with over 120 active chapters and colonies comprised of about 6,500 undergraduate members.

CONNECT

Are you getting our monthly emails, packed with news, memories and more, straight to your inbox? If not, you're miss-ing out!

Help us fill in the blanks and add your missing contact information to our database. You'll get great stories and updates like the ones featured in each Beta Upsilon Booster newsletter. To sign up, just send a quick note to eoneill@elevateims.com and let our alumni partners know to add you to the Delta Tau Delta at University of Illinois alumni email list!

SHARE YOUR STORY

Brotherhood doesn't end at graduation, and neither should your story. We're working on building meaningful alumni profiles to highlight the incredible paths our brothers have taken after college, and we'd love to feature you.

Please take a few minutes to complete our quick online survey. Your insights will help us strengthen and share alumni connections, celebrate your achievements, and preserve the legacy of Delta Tau Delta for generations to come.



BETA UPSILON BOOSTER

153 YEARS • ONE BROTHERHOOD • DELTA TAU DELTA FRATERNITY • UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

December 2025

HOMECOMING 2025 RECAP

Brothers of Delta Tau Delta gathered in Champaign for another memorable Homecoming celebration! Alumni from across all decades reconnected with familiar faces, shared stories from their time in the house, and enjoyed a weekend full of Illini spirit. The event was a wonderful reminder of the life-long friendships and traditions that continue to strengthen our chapter.

Check out the photos below to relive some of the highlights from the weekend!



ANNUAL ILLINOIS DELTA GOLF OUTING A SUCCESS!

The annual Illinois Delta golf outing took place on September 21 at Itasca Country Club. A big thank you to **Mark Tomassini '92** for organizing the event and **Mark Bolsoni '96** for hosting us at his club.



JIM BETTONVILLE '64

"You are only a stranger here but once."

When **Jim Bettonville '64** was in the chapter, he met some great friends, built lasting friendships, and enjoyed some good times.

"My roommate, **Don Tuck '64**, used to complain that he never got any mail," Doug said. "So I looked through magazine ads and whenever they said, 'Write for free information,' I'd send in his name. He got on the mailing lists and got stacks and stacks of mail every day. He was really pissed!"

Don and Jim hit the roommate lottery with one another and built a strong friendship that continued into their lives as alumni. "We were downstate boys and had similar interests. We met up again after graduation. I was the best man in his wedding, and he was the godfather of one of my children."

"I can't describe the wonderful times I had

with Don and **Bill Smith '65**. I miss them dearly."

KAMS was a favorite hangout, Delts were known for their athletic ability, and the chapter enjoyed sorority exchanges and road trips.

"I remember our freshmen walkout to the University of Wisconsin," Jim said. "The drinking age was 18. **Neil Dahlman '64** got drunk and passed out on the Shelter stairs. He had his wide eyes open, which was really spooky! He got the nickname 'Spook Dahlman' from then on."

In addition to the fun times, Jim also reflected on the meaningful experiences he had as a brother. "My favorite Delt tradition is, 'You are only a stranger here but once.' I hope that never goes away."

Congratulations, Keith Campbell '07!

We're proud to celebrate **Keith Campbell '07** for being named to Crain's Chicago business' table M&A advisors list! Keith leads West Monroe's global M&A practice of more than 200 and built West Monroe's carveout capabilities from the ground up!

Congratulations, Keith! Beta Upsilon Chapter of Delta Tau Delta is proud of you!

JOHN CONRAD '68

"We were a fraternity on the way up."

When **John Conrad '68** thinks back on his time in Delta Tau Delta, chapter achievements and hijinks both feature in his memories. "We were a fraternity that was on the way up to the top 15 of 57 houses," he said. "We had a reputation for throwing great parties with sororities."

The chapter reputation and achievements did not occur in a vacuum, however. There was focused leadership that made those things possible. "**John Gleeson '68** had a plan to make Delta Tau Delta the most recognized fraternity on campus. He coordinated sorority parties with the top five houses on campus, the Delt choir for serenades, and a torch-lit serenade for all pinning ceremonies. He also pushed the brothers to get involved with campus organizations," John said.

John fondly remembered hanging out at Chances R, serenades, and making it to the finals in a water polo tournament. There was always fun to be had when the brothers were together.

"When putting together a rush slide show, we snuck into Memorial Stadium and took pictures of five or six brothers hanging on the crossbar of a goal post. When they let go, there was an obvious bend in the middle."

Thankfully, those relationships and good times did not end with graduation. "I developed even closer relationships with several brothers," John said. "**Dennis Mesic '68** always kept in touch after graduation. We met in Minneapolis, San Jose, and other places."



GOOD LUCK, BROTHERS!

Check out the undergrads, classes of 2028 and 2027, on their first day of classes! We wish them all a safe and successful year!

INTRODUCING THE 2025–2026 EXECUTIVE TEAM OF THE BETA UPSILON CHAPTER

On Sunday, November 9, 2025, members of the chapter gathered at the Delt Shelter in excitement to vote for the new executive team for the next year. Elections are always one of the most crowded chapters, with out-of-house and in-house members present to ensure that the right leaders are chosen, that all past work is recognized, and that pledges get to witness the excitement of elections for the first time.

After over an hour of speeches and lively debates, the chapter finally elected a new group of leaders, excited to lead from January 1, 2026, through November 2026, with a transition period now through the end of the year. The new executive team will also participate in two retreats led by our chapter advisor, Paapa Nkrumah-Ababio, Marietta College '18 (Epsilon Upsilon Chapter of Delta Tau Delta), and a Delt National consultant to equip them to serve the chapter to the best of their abilities. We cannot wait to see the great work this new team contributes to Beta Upsilon.

Incoming President



Henry Stach '28

Henry is from Clarendon Hills, Illinois, and is studying accounting and information systems. With goals of working in strategy consulting or restructuring, Henry is eager to use his knowledge and leadership as president.

Henry comes from a strong line of chapter leaders. Over the past four years, his fraternity family has produced three presidents: Luke Montgomery '24, Cole Dochoff '27, and now Henry himself. It's become a source of pride for the family that they've contributed significant leadership to the chapter, with each president leaving a meaningful mark.

During this transition period, Henry is uniquely positioned as both the outgoing pledge educator and incoming president, earning him a reputation as "the most powerful man in the house." His role in shaping new members while preparing to lead the chapter has made him a central figure in chapter life.

Outside of leadership, Henry enjoys reading *Game of Thrones*, watching *The Wire*, and spending time in the small study room or just hanging out with his brothers. He values the genuine friendships and conversations that make Beta Upsilon feel like more than just a house; it's a home.

As president, Henry is looking forward to keeping everyone united, organizing meaningful events, and pushing the chapter forward in a thoughtful, sustainable way. With his experience, energy, passion, and a proud family tradition to uphold, he's ready to lead the house into its next chapter.

Henry will also, in early January, join other presidents from across the country in Denton, Texas, for PresX, the National Fraternity's training for new presidents. The Presidents' Excellence Institute (PresX) is designed specifically for newly elected chapter presidents to develop the skills they need to lead effectively and comes at no cost to the president or chapter. It's a unique chance to connect with fellow presidents, learn best practices, and prepare for the year ahead.

Incoming Internal Vice President



Matt Adler '28

In recent years, Beta Upsilon has improved its executive structure to better support chapter life. What was once a single vice president role has become two specialized positions: internal and external. Matt's role as internal vice president places him at the heart of house operations, where he'll oversee brotherhood programming, academic initiatives, and house and grounds management. He will also serve as the main point of contact for contractors, from the chefs to the maintenance staff.

Leadership clearly runs in Matt's family. His cousin, Will Adler Coombs '25, made history as the first external vice president when the position was created three years ago. Now, Matt is carrying on that legacy, bringing his own energy and vision to the role.

A sophomore from Western Springs, Illinois, Matt is double majoring in finance and accounting, with plans to build a career in Chicago's banking industry. His strong work ethic and involvement in chapter leadership have already put him on a solid path toward future success.

Matt transitions into this role after serving as recruitment chair, where he played a key role in welcoming and developing new classes of brothers. His commitment to building a positive house culture made him a standout in recruitment, and now, as IVP, he's ready to support brotherhood at all levels.

Outside of his leadership responsibilities, Matt stays active and engaged. He enjoys running, golfing, watching sports, and holding his own at euchre. And, in a true display of balance and coordination, he can even walk on his hands.

Matt is excited to help make the chapter the best possible place to live and grow. With leadership in his blood and a passion for serving his brothers, he's ready to elevate Beta Upsilon from within.

Incoming External Vice President



Billy O'Neill '28

Billy is a sophomore majoring in accounting and information systems, with plans to build a career in tax or audit after graduation, ideally settling in Chicago. Always driven and detail-oriented, he's ready to bring that same energy and organization to his leadership role within the chapter.

Billy is transitioning into the external vice president position after a highly successful term as social chair, where he played a key role in planning and executing major events that brought the brotherhood together. In this new role, he will oversee social, philanthropy, and alumni relations, ensuring that Beta Upsilon continues to make a positive impact both within the house and beyond.

When he's not crunching numbers or planning chapter events, you'll likely find Billy doing one of the things he loves most: hitting the golf course, watching college basketball, catching the latest movie, or spending quality time with friends. A lifelong skier, he's especially excited to hit the slopes during his upcoming study abroad.

With a genuine passion for chapter traditions, Billy is eager to preserve beloved events like Mom's Weekend while reimagining and innovating others to enhance the Beta Upsilon experience. He's committed to maintaining and strengthening the culture that makes our brotherhood special and is excited to lead the chapter's external relations with integrity and enthusiasm.

Incoming Director of Finance



Luke Bilenko '28

Luke is a sophomore from Hinsdale studying finance and data science, with a strong interest in strategy and management consulting. He hopes to launch his consulting career in Chicago after graduation, but first, he's in search of a summer internship. If your company is looking for a hardworking and sharp-minded Delt, Luke would love to hear

from you. We're all in agreement; let's get him an internship.

Luke is also a walking sports encyclopedia, able to name an impressive number of professional athletes and where they played in college. A die-hard Chicago sports fan, you'll often find him watching or playing sports himself. In his free time, he enjoys basketball, pickleball, and the occasional competitive game of Catan.

Luke is transitioning from the assistant director of finance position into the role of director of finance. It's a smooth and natural shift for someone already deeply engaged in managing the chapter's finances. He's eager to build on the work of previous executive boards and ensure that Beta Upsilon remains financially strong and well-prepared for the future.

With his financial expertise and leadership mindset, Luke is ready to make a meaningful impact and help guide the house toward continued success.

Altogether, the new executive team includes

President – Henry Stach '28

Internal Vice-President – Matt Adler '28

External Vice-President – Billy O'Neill '28

Director of Finance – Luke Bilenko '28

Director of Risk – Andrew Peto '28

Director Communications – Dean O'Bryan '28

Director of Member Development – Chuck Chevalier '28

Director of Standards – Charlie Gardella '28

Recruitment Chairs – Jack Cheney '28; Billy Keenan '28

Social Chair – Will Kusak '28

Ritual Chair – Ian Wagner '28

House and Ground Chair – David Lyle '28

Philanthropy Chair – JT Kurtzweil '28

Brotherhood Chair – Joey Garvey '28

Alumni Chair – Mikey Santoro '28

Spring New Member Educators – Ian Wagner '28 and Spencer Lisek '28

As we look ahead to the coming year, it's clear our chapter is in strong hands. With leaders like Henry, Matt, Luke, and Billy stepping into key roles alongside a talented team of chairmen and directors, the future of Beta Upsilon looks bright. And, yes, you might have noticed a trend; there seems to be no shortage of business majors this year. If leadership were a sport, these four would already be starting varsity, and the rest of the team is right there with them, ready to make an impact.

Together, the new executive board brings a shared commitment to brotherhood, operational excellence, and chapter growth. Whether it's preserving beloved traditions, building new ones, strengthening financial health, or maintaining a strong house culture, this team is ready to lead us into another outstanding year. Here's to 2026 and to the collective effort that keeps Beta Upsilon thriving.

Rah, Delts!!!

CHAPTER ETERNAL

Reverend Dennis Stanley Tierney '68



It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of the Reverend Dennis Stanley Tierney '68 into Chapter Eternal. We want to extend our deepest sympathies to his family, friends, and loved ones.

Source: Courtesy of Cook Family Funeral Home

The Reverend Dennis Stanley Tierney died suddenly at home on May 2, 2025. A beloved husband, brother, uncle, and great uncle, priest, traveler, raconteur, chef, and loyal friend, he and his many talents touched the lives of his family, friends, and parishioners. He is survived by his beloved wife, Grace; his brothers, Stephen, David, and Paul; five nieces, three nephews; six great-nieces; and six great-nephews.

Donald Simroth '56



Brothers, it is with great sadness that we announce the passing of our Brother Donald Simroth '56. We want to extend our deepest sympathies to his family, friends, and loved ones.

Source: Courtesy of Charlton and Groome Funeral Home and Crematory Inc.

Donald Wayne Simroth, 91, of Waynesboro, Virginia, passed away on November 6, 2024. Don was born in Decatur, Illinois, on June 2, 1933, to Paul Karl Simroth and Florence (Tucker) Simroth. He married Nancy (Pier) Simroth, his beloved wife of 65 years, on January 26, 1957.

To finish reading the Chapter Eternal's, you can view them on website at these links:

<https://illinidelts-alumni.com/chapter-eternal-donald-simroth-56/>

<https://illinidelts-alumni.com/chapter-eternal-reverend-dennis-stanley-tierney-68/>