

# Sons of the Dragon Club

Leave your mark... *for the Kai*



## Objectives

1. To educate undergraduates on the purpose, goals and activity of the Beta Theta Pi Foundation
2. To establish a culture of lifelong annual giving to the *Beta Leadership Fund*

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Why does the *Sons of the Dragon Club* exist?

The Beta Foundation believes that *developing men of principle for a principled life* is a worthy endeavor. However, meeting the increasing demand for high-quality leadership programs and services requires more Betas, parents and *Friends of Beta* to support the *Beta Leadership Fund* annually – including Beta undergraduates! The undergraduates who are benefitting from the Foundation's leadership programming today, will be the *Beta Greats* of tomorrow. And, the *Sons of the Dragon Club* was created to give our young men an opportunity to give back and begin their journey of building a bridge for those who follow.

### What is the *Beta Leadership Fund* and what do *BLF* contributions support?

The *Beta Leadership Fund (BLF)* is the annual fundraising drive of the Foundation, and it is the lifeline of Beta's educational activity. The *BLF* provides the financial resources that staff and operate the educational Foundation, important alumni outreach activities, the *Men of Principle* initiative and award-winning leadership programs like the *Presidents Academy*, *Leadership College*, the *Wooden Institute*, the *Men of Principle Scholarship Grant Program*, the *Undergraduate Interfraternity Institute* and *Keystone*. The *BLF* is not an endowment as the dollars are raised and spent annually on programing for Beta undergraduates.

### How do undergraduates join the *Sons of the Dragon Club*?

Any undergraduate who gives \$18.39 or more to the *Beta Leadership Fund* is a member of the *Sons of the Dragon Club* for that fiscal year (June 1 – May 31). The *Sons of the Dragon Club* is an **annual** giving club and undergraduates are encouraged to join each year while in college – and to continue giving as an alumnus. Contributions can be made via credit card online at [www.betathetapi.org/gift](http://www.betathetapi.org/gift) or checks/cash can be mailed to: The Beta Foundation; 5134 Bonham Rd; Oxford, OH 45056.

### Are there membership benefits or recognition for joining?

Every undergraduate who joins the Club by April 1<sup>st</sup> will receive the 2012 *Sons of the Dragon Club* necktie. Ties will be given immediately to anyone who joins onsite at the *Presidents Academy* or *Keystone*, but all other Club members will have their ties shipped to their respective chapters in mid-April. Along with publishing the names of all donors in the Foundation *Annual Report*, the Beta Foundation will also annually recognize chapters (based on the number and percentage of members in the *Club*) at the General Convention in late summer.



## Why does Beta have a Foundation? Don't chapters already pay dues?

Chapter dues that are paid to the General Fraternity are primarily used for non-educational expenses (risk management, member insurance, recruitment resources/support, staff support, Ritual resources, the Beta Magazine, General Fraternity governance, Administrative Office grounds, etc.) The Beta Foundation's goal every year is to subsidize as much of the Fraternity's educational activity allowable by law, which helps keep chapter dues low. On average, the Beta Foundation needs to raise roughly \$1 million per year to meet the educational demands of the Fraternity. The Fraternity's ability to provide high-quality educational programs and services to all Beta chapters is directly related to the financial capacity of the Beta Foundation. Conversely, the Foundation's "case for support" used in raising funds annually, is directly related to the performance and results produced by the Fraternity's undergraduate chapters (GPA results, risk management, recruitment results, community service, etc.)

## Besides Convention recognition, are there other incentives for my chapter to support the Club?

Although charitable giving is always an individual's personal choice, the Beta Foundation encourages all chapters to create a strong culture where members understand the importance of the Beta Foundation and "building a bridge" by giving back annually through membership in the Club. To encourage this type of chapter culture – and to put "cultivation of the intellect" into action – an extra incentive is being offered in 2012. Every chapter that either reaches 100% participation in the Club (or 62+ members, which is Beta's average chapter size), will win a Skype Interview with a Beta Great! A few of the Beta Greats who will be giving Skype Interviews to a winning chapter are:



## How can I do my part as an undergraduate to advance the Sons of the Dragon Club?

Remember that the two main objectives for the *Sons of the Dragon Club* are to educate undergraduates on the Beta Foundation, and to start them on the path of giving back annually. If you want to take an active role in advancing the Club, you should start by asking yourself these questions:

- Are you a member of the *Sons of the Dragon Club*? Do you encourage your chapter members to follow your example?
- Do you know (and can you articulate) the purposes of the Beta Foundation and the *Beta Leadership Fund*?
- Does your chapter provide quality, annual education to each pledge class on the *Sons of the Dragon Club* and the Beta Foundation?
- Does your chapter set a goal for membership in the Club? Do you strive to surpass the membership results from the previous year?

These are just a few things to consider when thinking about the best way to promote the *Sons of the Dragon Club* in your chapter and across Beta's Broad Domain.