

# THE OMEGARON

Chi Phi Fraternity, Omega Chapter



The Official Alumni and Friends Newsletter of the Omega Chapter — March, 2016

## St. Baldricks 2016

One of the older philanthropic traditions of Chi Phi is participation in the St. Baldrick's fundraising event for childhood cancer research. Each year, multiple brothers set about collecting donations for



the cause and eventually, shaving their heads to show solidarity with the children suffering from this terrible disease. There are many ways to accomplish this goal. Henry Saba, a spring pledge set a number of goals and pledged to do various things at each fundraising checkpoints. These promises ranged from the base, shaved head at \$50 all the way to waxed legs at \$200. Additionally, as the shaving actually took place in public, spectators were invited (and encouraged) to donate in order to stop the shaving halfway through. The shavee would then have to raise the same amount of money to continue the process. All around, despite the baldness and gravity of the situation, the event is typically a lighthearted and enjoyable affair.

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## Upcoming Events -

Shrimp and Beer:  
April 16, 2016  
12-4 PM  
Brewery Event:  
This summer!

## Links of Interest -

Omega Chapter of Chi Phi:  
[www.gtchiphi.org](http://www.gtchiphi.org)

Chi Phi National Website:  
[www.chiphi.org](http://www.chiphi.org) Omega

Giving Club:  
[www.chiphigivingclub.com](http://www.chiphigivingclub.com)

Chi Phi — Omega Facebook Page:  
[www.facebook.com/ChiPhiatGaTech](http://www.facebook.com/ChiPhiatGaTech)



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This year, several brothers participated, including three quarters of the Spring 2016 pledge class. Carl Mubarak, a spring pledge, was one such participant.

“I really enjoyed participating in St. Baldricks this year. The days leading up to it got pretty interesting because I had no idea at all what I’d look like bald, and I was worried it’d look terrible. I went out and bought a couple of hats in preparation as well. However after actually shaving my head and doing it for a good cause especially, I really began to appreciate the organization and their cause. I was proud to have participated and will most likely be doing it yearly.

-Carl Mubarak”

For clarification, Carl (and just about everyone else) looked terrible bald, but it is that willingness to put personal pride aside for the betterment of others that is one of the key characteristics of a true gentleman.



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## **Brother's Involvement**

Perhaps the greatest way for a fraternity to spread its influence on campus is via brotherhood involvement in other clubs, professional endeavors, and academic activities. With that in mind, it's worth noting how a few Omega brothers are currently representing Chi Phi in organizations both on and off campus.

## **Uche Nkadi- BuzzBeats**

My experience in the BuzzBeats beatboxing group this year has been spectacular! Being a part of a Hip-Hop based vocal percussion group has given me various opportunities to perform and spread the art of Beatboxing to people who would have never known about it otherwise. The biggest performance that my organization had was being an opener for Georgia Tech's Homecoming Concert! We actually got to perform before B.O.B in front of hundreds of people! My group has had other big performances including Georgia Tech Night of Diversity, Relay for Life, and the Miss Black and Gold Pageant. Our Hip-Hop covers mostly focused on beatbox but the songs in our performances were well known songs such as Day and Night by Kid Cudi, M.A.A.D. City by Kendrick Lamar, Hotline Bling by Drake, and The Hills by Weeknd. We felt like fusing popular Hip-Hop songs with our genre of vocal percussion was the best way to bring the art of Beat boxing to the main stage. Most of all, what I have enjoyed in my performances the most have been the countless brothers of the Chi Phi Fraternity that take time out of their busy schedules to come see me perform and cheer me on. The feeling that I get when I get supported by people I care about is indescribable. Being on BuzzBeats has been a BLAST!

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## **Ben Nickel – SGA**

(From his SGA Vice President campaign website)

I am a third year Industrial and Systems Engineering major from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. I am currently serving as the Vice President of Communications for Student Government and am incredibly excited to run for Executive Vice President. During my time at Tech I have worked with Relay For Life helping fundraise for the American Cancer Society. I developed my passion for mentoring students through GT 1000 Team Leaders. I've fallen in love with our campus through GT Tour Guides. Peer Coaching taught me what it means to care for others and their mental health. I also have the privilege of serving the Institute as Tour Coordinator for the GT Student Ambassadors. I was fortunate enough to study abroad with the Oxford program where I made amazing friends, traveled to more than seven countries in Europe, and even more cities the Summer after my freshman year. I worked with Southwestern Advantage last Summer and will be working on the Coca-Cola Freestyle Project here in Atlanta this Summer! Tech has made a difference in my life and I can't wait to meet all of you and learn about your experience at Tech.



## **Josh Peterson- NASA**

During my time at NASA's Armstrong Flight Research Center, I've been serving as the mechanical design project lead on a team which aims to transform an F-18 into NASA's premier flight controls testbed. The Boeing F-18 Hornet is a digital fly-by-wire aircraft that may be modified using its flight

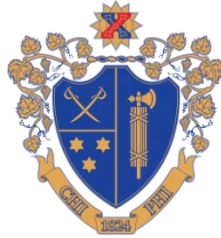
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computers to fly similar to any other type of aircraft. For example, after this modification, we will be able to control the aircraft's flight surfaces to fly like a commercial airliner or even a rocket. In order to obtain this capability, my team has been developing the hardware and electrical components necessary to instrument our F-18 with the associated avionics equipment. My duties include planning, designing, and integrating all associated hardware used to install avionics equipment on the F-18. My main areas of focus include the gun bay, the equipment bays, the cockpit, and the skin of the aircraft. This internship has been far and away the most intense and fulfilling engineering experience I've had. I've learned more about being an engineer in the last three months than I have in the last three years. I look forward to being able to use the skills I've learned here in my future endeavors.



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## **Big Brother Campout**

**Karsan Holley – New Member Educator**

Brothers,

As the current New Member Educator (Pledgemaster) I have been extremely satisfied with the quality and performance from the four pledges we have this Spring. While a small pledge class, I believe they have a lot to offer our fraternity and will have a tremendous impact on its future.

As you all know, each semester we have a Big Brother Campout (BBC) where we go camping as a brotherhood. This is the night the pledges receive their big brothers. The big brothers are crucial to the pledge process. They serve as mentors for their little brothers and guide them, ensuring that they are upholding our values and becoming the brothers that we want to become the face and future of our fraternity.

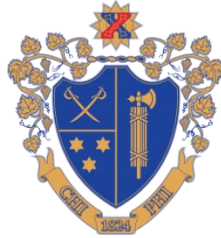
Unfortunately, due to weather, we were unable to go camping in Helen, GA like we usually do. We instead held BBC and the accompanying ceremonies at the chapter house this year. This is one of my favorite events that Chi Phi does as it is when true brotherhood is first seen by the pledges. Sitting around with all of your brothers gathered together for a night can be a rarity but when it does happen it is a reminder about what brotherhood is about and why I and many others chose to join Chi Phi.

I am looking forward to having an actual campout this fall for our next BBC with a hopefully much larger but just as great pledge class.

Fraternally,

Karsan Holley

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## Alumni Spotlight

**Chris Barnidge – President of OTA**

Omega Alumni,

It's an exciting time for the Omega Chapter! The active chapter is growing, finding success inside and outside the classroom, and setting an example in the Tech community that should make us all proud. It's encouraging to see such success and that the chapter operating at such a high level!

It has also been a busy time for OTA and other alumni volunteers. It has become apparent that the house is in need of refurbishment. OTA has been engaging alumni for guidance on how to best approach this. We have received overwhelming support for a renovation project as long as the historic nature of the house is preserved while providing an updated and competitive facility for the chapter. Our goal is to position the house, chapter, and OTA for success for decades to come.

OTA wants to remain transparent with alumni and the active chapter throughout this process. A brief renovation survey was distributed to alumni in mid-February to gather input on the house's current state and outlook for the future. Additionally, we have engaged alumni across generations and occupations to work closely with OTA and the architect team Stevens & Wilkinson (an Omega firm) to guide the conceptual design process. I am happy to report the project is moving along smoothly. We are ready to review the project scope and a conceptual design to alumni. I'm looking forward to meeting new and old faces and hearing thoughts on this plan. I hope you can join!

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We're always looking for ways for alumni to engage the fraternity; whether through mentorship of undergrads or volunteering with OTA, there are opportunities big and small for you to re-connect with the chapter. I hope to hear from many of you in the near future or at a football game this coming fall!

Fraternally,  
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Omega '12



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## Alumni Dinners

Be on the lookout for upcoming Alumni Dinners this summer! Get a chance to meet some of the active Brothers of the Chi Phi Fraternity while enjoying the tastes of Atlanta.

If you have any questions regarding the dinners, or would like to suggest times or restaurants, feel free to contact our Zeta, Brother Reinhardt at [creinhardt6@gatech.edu](mailto:creinhardt6@gatech.edu).

### Important Contacts

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