100,000 MEMBERS STRONG
THE POWER OF ONE MULTIPLIED

Franklin Charity, pictured here between Sigma Beta Delta Executive Director, Peter Banholzer, (L) and Sigma Beta Delta President, Dr. Randall M. McLeod (R), was the lucky student to become the significant numerical member.
FROM THE PRESIDENT’S DESK

HISTORY ---- IT IS IMPORTANT

We require students to take history classes at all levels of their educational journey. It seems all religions emphasize their historical benchmarks and, as you can tell by this issue of the *Aspirations*, we at Sigma Beta Delta are revisiting an important time in our history. “The Power of One” was the theme of our first national meeting almost 25 years ago. This inspired those in attendance and launched us forward into who we are today.

The theme of “The Power of One” touches my life perhaps differently from yours. My wife is a cancer survivor. Each year we march with thousands of others in the “Race for the Cure” which has developed into an international drive to make a difference in breast cancer. This was all started by one person, the sister of Susan G. Komen. She vowed to do what she could to make a difference in the lives of breast cancer patients. “The Power of One” has led to over $2.2 billion towards research and treatment.

My wife’s cousin was diagnosed with leukemia at 11 years old. St. Jude Hospital in Memphis took charge of her care at no cost to her family. Now, 50 years later, she is still with us. Most of you know the St. Jude story. One man, Danny Thomas, decided he would do what he could to help people with this disease.

Sigma Beta Delta started from “The Power of One”. One small group of men pledged to do what they could to assist the honor society movement. They created the theme, invited supporters, and inspired people to do what they could. Dr. Sandra Hile Hart was at our first national meeting. She embraced the message and over time became President of Sigma Beta Delta. Dr. Gloria Clark was also in attendance and chose to use her skills to do what she could. Today, she is our treasurer and has assisted in bringing this organization to a firm financial position.

Along with these charities, Sigma Beta Delta is a great story impacting more than 450 colleges and universities, over 100,000 students, and giving hundreds of thousands of dollars to assist in their educational journey. So… whether you’re a student, faculty, or alumni, it is our desire that you do what you can to help this world be a better place. We look forward to another 25 years.

“The Power of One”

Sincerely,

Randall M. McLeod
President, Sigma Beta Delta

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It was a very soggy day in Lynchburg, VA. It had rained most of the day and night before, and it was still raining on the morning of May 18th, 2018. Many ceremonies and graduations were scheduled for that day at Liberty University. Such a joyous day did not deserve the rain and clouds that rolled through the Blue Ridge Mountains. But, the rain didn’t discourage the students and faculty nor their friends and family as they began to arrive on campus. Many of the guests that day arrived with colorful flowers and dazzling balloons to push against the grey of the day and to give to their loved ones in recognition of their academic achievements.

Sigma Beta Delta’s President, Dr. Randall McLeod, and Executive Director, Peter Banholzer, were in attendance. Dr. McLeod was called to speak at the podium before commencing the induction ceremony. He spoke about the power of membership in an honor society and the meaningfulness of recognizing student accomplishments. He spoke about the significant number milestones of Sigma Beta Delta, then announced that the 100,000th member would be inducted at this ceremony. Franklin was called to the stage. He was given a custom member certificate and embroidered honor stole along with a scholarship award. There was great applause, lots of pictures taken, and a realization by Franklin as to why many people shook his hand before the ceremony telling him they were happy that he came.

When Franklin was asked how he felt about being a little more famous than most members, he said “it’s great to be recognized for all the hard work I’ve done and adversity I’ve overcome. Being the special one that day, just made it more special.” Franklin is a full time student, a husband, a father, and he works full time. Franklin said that becoming a Sigma Beta Delta member and receiving such public recognition made him feel very loved. He used the scholarship money to pay for tuition but not before he took his family out for a little celebration. Franklin plans to use the support and motivation of membership to pursue a master’s and a doctoral degree. He aspires to be the chief information officer or chief security officer for a major corporation.

One of the ceremonies scheduled for that day was a Sigma Beta Delta member induction ceremony. Member induction ceremonies are always a special occasion, but this ceremony was to be a little more special than most. The 100,000th member of the honor society was going to be inducted. Liberty University’s chapter advisor, Terry Conner, was very excited that Franklin Charity was to be the significant numerical member. Franklin is an undergraduate majoring in Business Data Networking and Security. He arrived that day with his family not knowing that he would receive the special recognition. Franklin is a self-proclaimed introvert and typically doesn’t like to sit in the front of a room, but on that day he chose the front row. It was a serendipitous decision.

“The certificate and stole are stored away so I can show my daughter, in the future, the reward for hard work and be living proof and a reminder”

Dr. McLeod’s speech that day highlighted recognizing student achievements to inspire them to achieve future goals. Membership has now inspired 100,000 Sigma Beta Delta members and Franklin is living proof of the power of one.

Sigma Beta Delta 100,000th Member May 18, 2018
2018 SIGMA BETA DELTA FELLOWSHIP AWARD RECIPIENTS

Cheryl is a Business Advisor for the Small Business Development Center for San Diego County hosted by MiraCosta College. She has helped dozens of companies obtain over $4 million in government contracts. After 11 years of hard work and dedication advising small businesses, Cheryl returned to school to pursue an MBA. While balancing marriage, three children, and her career, Cheryl has excelled in her studies and her career maintaining a 4.0 GPA. Cheryl aspires to continue working with small businesses and start teaching online classes while touring the country in an RV.

Joe Wesley Balle
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Thomasville, GA

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Ashford University
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Wayne, NE

Ashley McGann
Saint Michael’s College
Colchester, VT

Garwayne McGregor
College of Westchester
White Plains, NY

Josh is very honored to be an SBD member and will continue “to inspire others to be the best they can.” He aspires to be a positive leader & give back to his community.

Joshua Mercer
Franklin Pierce University
Rindge, NH

Luis Alfredo Reyes Morillo
Barton College
Wilson, NC
Mackenzie E. Ottens  
Keuka College  
Keuka Park, NY

Mackenzie’s personality & award application stood out by submitting an application manually typed on his 1951 Remington Quiet-Riter. He said his academic strength is being able to learn things quickly. That skill should come in handy as a student because he admits to having bad time management skills. Mackenzie’s life goal is to continue “being the person I needed when I was younger.”

Rebekah Owsley  
Johnson University  
Knoxville, TN

Rebecca specifically chose Johnson University for its Nonprofit Administration program. She was inspired by her parents who ran a nonprofit. She aspires to fight for people oppressed by their community. On campus, she serves as a tutor in the school of business and as a Presidential Ambassador to the University’s President. Rebecca has been able to keep a 4.0 GPA, even with all of her extra activities. She plans on pursuing an MBA.

Emily Pavelski  
Hilbert College  
Hamburg, NY

Emily aspires to make a difference in the world. Her goal is to provide low interest loans in her home country of Malaysia, so people can afford their pensions, basic needs, and healthcare.

Spriha Pradhan  
Bemidji State University  
Bemidji, MN

Emotional Quotient

Jon Paul Ray  
Central Christian College of Kansas  
McPherson, KS

Christian Ray Redman  
Randolph-Macon College  
Ashland, VA

Brice Quillen  
Emory & Henry College  
Emory, VA

Emma Silber  
Washington College  
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Nicholas G. White  
Dominican College  
Orangeburg, NY

Sam Zanto  
North Central University  
Minneapolis, MN
THE POWER OF ONE MULTIPLIED

Sigma Beta Delta held its first society wide conference in the fall of 1997. The society was just over three years old at that time. The theme of that meeting was “The Power of One: Excellence and Personal Responsibility in the 21st Century.” The power that one person can have on their community and the world was on display to inspire all of the members and chapter officers in attendance. Two of the attendees at that meeting must have taken the message to heart because less than a year later, they chose to use their power of one to greatly influence Sigma Beta Delta by joining the society’s Executive Board.

Beta Delta Board. As volunteer board members, they have been a part of chartering over one hundred chapters. Those chapters have gone on to induct thousands of members. They have been part of selecting applicants to award thousands of dollars in Fellowship Awards. Those awards have helped dozens of students continue their higher education. They have participated on numerous society committees and represented Sigma Beta Delta for many years, strengthening the society’s foundation and securing it’s future. They are proof that the Power of One is possible to positively impact the world and the power can be multiplied.

Dr. Sandra Hile Hart and Dr. Gloria Clark were inducted as faculty officer members at their institutions just a year or two prior to attending the 1997 meeting. They, like other attendees, saw the potential that an honor society can have to positively impact their students and their program. Attendees were challenged by the meeting’s presiding officer, and SBD’s Founding President, Dr. James H. Bearden. Dr. Bearden challenged attendees to consider the power they can have through Sigma Beta Delta saying, “The collegiate honor society has had a long and successful history of encouraging and recognizing excellence of students in colleges and universities, and that valuable role should be maintained and nurtured as it’s unique and primary mission.” Clark and Hart were able to multiply their power through the many students they inducted into membership at their chapters. They further multiplied their power through their service on the Sigma

As Sigma Beta Delta looks towards its silver anniversary in 2019, Clark and Hart will continue to serve as examples for all members to accept the challenge of their power. The most academically gifted individuals become Sigma Beta Delta members. Their light shines brightly. Accept the Power of One and multiply it throughout your life.

Dr. Clark (L) and Dr. Hart (R) 1998 SBD Newsletter photos

Dr. Clark and Dr. Hart, recent photos.
October 24-26, 2019
Philadelphia’s Historic District

All Sigma Beta Delta members and chapter officers are invited to meet at the Wyndham Philadelphia Historic District for fellowship, networking, informative sessions, keynote speakers, & a celebration of Sigma Beta Delta’s 25th Anniversary. Save the date and watch for more information.

DONATION APPEAL

Sigma Beta Delta is in a state of anticipation as the society looks towards it’s 25th Anniversary and an ever expanding horizon. There is great anticipation for many new things to come. New members joining in the spring, new member and chapter management software that will go live in July 2019, awarding more scholarships this coming summer, and of course the silver anniversary celebration in less than a year. These new horizons are only possible because of our inherited legacy, built by a network of over 100,000 members. A member network that uses their Power of One to positively impact their community. This society is privileged to build upon it’s legacy, continuing a tradition of wisdom, honor, and aspirations. As you make your year end giving plans, we humbly ask that each member consider a donation of $25 or more to support the society’s future. Please use the inserted envelope or log on to www.sigmabetadelta.org/donate.

THANK YOU!
SIGMA BETA DELTA DONORS 2017-2018

Members of Sigma Beta Delta are listed by chapter.

$1,000+

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Texas Wesleyan University

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Thank you for your donation!