

## FREDERICK F. BROWER *MIAMI '50*

*Oxford, Ohio, October 28, 2006* — The prestigious Francis Wayland Shepardson award was bestowed upon Frederick F. Brower, *Miami '50*, at a General Fraternity Alumni Appreciation Dinner held in Oxford, Ohio, October 28. Brower served as the Fraternity's second administrative secretary (1958-65) and 16th general treasurer (1967-70), and is an oft-consulted member of the Advisory Council of former trustees. Brower was initiated into the Alpha Chapter as a sophomore on March 13, 1948, first in a class of 10. He was commissioned a second lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps upon graduation in June 1950 and was wounded in Korea early in 1951.

After hospitalization, he returned to combat duty before being reassigned to Parris Island as a recruit-company commander. Brower gained management experience in being placed in charge of the base officers' club, which included a large hotel operation. Later, he became commander of the Marine detachment aboard the carrier U.S.S. Tarawa, serving through its world cruise. Released as a captain in August 1955, he returned to Miami University for graduate study toward a career in real estate sales and property management. Brower married Mary Jane Hugh, a Miami member of Alpha Omicron Pi, in June 1956.

The position of administrative secretary had been created as a job to be filled on a part-time basis, for about five years, by a bright young man who would move on after gaining maturity and experience. By 1957, Ralph N. Fey, *Miami '40*, as its first incumbent, was preparing to begin devoting full time to his insurance business. On Fey's recommendation, the Fraternity's Board of Trustees offered the opportunity to Brower with the understanding that he would continue his business activities part-time. He accepted effective June 30, 1958. He began working in February under Fey's guidance and was able to take over entirely on May 2. He served seven years.

By the time he, in turn, was ready to leave the Beta office, he had become a partner in Oxford Real Estate Sales, a development firm. Several other firms eventually were merged with this to form Alpha, Inc., an association of members of the Alpha chapters of fraternities founded at Miami.

Beta Theta Pi continued to call on Brower. He became the 16th general treasurer, 1967-70, serving ex-officio as a member of the Board of Trustees of the Founders Fund and the Baird Fund. In 1977, he was named a trustee of the Founders Fund to fill an unexpired term. Soon, the boards of the Founders Fund and the Baird Fund were combined, and Brower served on the combined board through the 1984 General Convention.

Over these years, he planned arrangements for six General Conventions; helped organize the annual Alpha migration held in Oxford on or near the August 8th anniversary of the founding of Beta Theta Pi; was a member of the Board of Trustees of the Alpha Chapter House Company and served as its president, and was temporary president of the Sesqui-Centenary Convention in 1989.

Fred and Mary Jane are parents of Elizabeth, Rebecca and Susanne. Fred's Beta relatives include a brother Dan (*Miami '52*), a nephew Dan (*Miami '80*), a grand-nephew Dan (who is an Alpha Chapter sophomore) and two cousins: Otho E. Lane, *Miami 1901* and John M. Sommer, *Miami '53*. Another cousin, Nancy Sohngen, married Robert L. Cottrell, *Miami '54*, who became a Fraternity vice president and trustee (1971-74) and served as administrative secretary in the 1990s.