

The Cornell Alpha Delt



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Spring 2009

Alpha Delta Phi Stands Strong on Campus: Maintains Mystique

As the cold Ithaca winter once again bids us farewell and barren trees begin to show signs of sprouting foliage, the Cornell Chapter of Alpha Delta Phi is brimming with excitement.

While there was a decrease in both the total number of students participating in rush this year as well as the number of students choosing to sign bids due to the economic recession, the Phi is proud to announce the addition of 16 new members. They come from all corners of the world, including Asia, Canada, Russia, and Greece, and have proven to be able to live up to the high standards imposed by our brotherhood. Composed of 12 freshmen and four sophomores, most members of the pledge class intend to live in-house next year, increasing the number of brothers expected to live in the Phi from 21 this semester to 28 or 29 next semester.

The traditions of our society continue; literary events have been an instrumental part of the house this semester. Conducted twice a week during protocol dinners, members are invited to share a personal experience or a venture to the assembled brotherhood. Young alumni have frequently come back to take part in these presentations, often describing experiences of their own, originating from their lives after Cornell or from the time they spent here as an undergraduate in the Phi.

Another aspect of these events to enjoy is the excellent food produced by our in-house chef, Scott "Scooter" Schmutzler. His menu varies from his popular Crab Cake Benedict to the sumptuous feast he prepared for us, composed of steak, lobster, and chocolate mousse. Scott has already begun reorganizing the kitchen and making it more efficient in anticipation of the increased number of brothers living in the house next year.

Alumni are not the only ones to visit 777 Stewart Avenue either; we were recently visited by members of the Memorial Chapter at McGill, members of the Nu Epsilon Zeta Chapter at Northeastern, and a member from the Middlesex Chapter at Brandeis University. These visits have allowed us to share traditions with our various chapters and to get to know how our fraternity is doing at other schools. Our 16 new members have already gone to Hamilton College, visiting Kirkland Hall, Eells Hall, and the monumental obelisk marking Samuel Eells' grave.

A major goal of Alpha Delta Phi this year has been to maintain and improve our good standing with the university as well as the Ithaca community. In an effort to convey this message, members of the Phi have conducted ride-alongs with local law-enforcement agencies,

(continued on page five)



Returning Alumni Brothers Honor Spring 2009 Initiation

The undergraduate chapter and the House Corporation salute the brothers listed below for their tremendous dedication and effort in returning to the Phi to support Initiation.*

We fully realize the time, expense, and energy required to return to

777 Stewart Avenue, and extend our deep gratitude to the brothers who do.

**Regrets to anyone inadvertently omitted. Please let us know by writing to Matt Colbert '09 at mjc94@cornell.edu and we will make sure your name is recognized in our next issue. Thank you!*

Henrik Aittola '01
James Barringer '89
Doug Bond '66
Jorge Boone '98
J. Thomas Chirurg '63
Ryan Colbert '05

Tom Colbert '74
Josh Deutsch '02
David Faust '83
Chris Gunderson '08
Jim Harberson '95
Doug Jimerson '72

Eamon Kelleher '08
Barnaby Kendall '00
Bill Kendall '02
Peter Kendall '68
Ed Kim '88
Mark Jennings '08

Kirk Lucadamo '07
Andrew Melvin '07
Michael Millette '86
Steven Ritchey '81
Keith Romero '00
David L. Ryan Jr. '08

Ron Schaefer '78
Richard Seestedt '86
Trevor Sell '08
Dave Shapiro '01
Douglas Smith '78
Eric D. Wang '08

Eric Weinstein '08
Greg Wolfe '08
Rajiv Yadlapalli '07

ΑΔΦ



Officers and Directors Alpha Delta Phi at Cornell, Inc.

Chairman

Kenneth E. Growney '82
kgrowney@metlife.com

President

Howard B. Schaffer '90
hbschaffer@aol.com

Vice President

John R. Tuttle '81
jtuttle59@earthlink.net

Treasurer

Patrick G. Kavanagh '07
patrick.g.kavanagh@gmail.com

Recording Secretary

Rudy Koch '00
Rudy.Koch@gmail.com

Corresponding Secretary

W. Douglas Bond '66
bond@post.harvard.edu

Directors Emeriti:

George M. Kennedy '52
Richard W. Wambach '53
John S. Dyson '65
W. Douglas Bond '66

Retiring October 2010

Philip C. Ballard '00
Anthony Biddle '07
W. Douglas Bond '66
Drew Butler '02
Ryan A. Colbert '05
Michael R. Elliott '87
Kenneth E. Growney '82
Patrick G. Kavanagh '07
Rudy Koch '00

Retiring October 2009

Jim McCormick '69
Philip R. Reilly '69
Thomas M. Rothfels '77
Richard Seestedt '86
Howard B. Schaffer '90
Joseph Tucceri Jr. '00
John R. Tuttle '81

Alpha Delt's Cheer Four Decades of Brotherhood



Brothers of the class of 1969 (with spouses) gather in Florida for a "40th Reunion Warmup." Pictured, from l. to r., are Knight and Ann Kiplinger, Jim and Marsha McCormick, Earl Roberts, Rich Wait, John Dyson '65 (back), Cliff Leonhardt (middle), Tom Witherspoon (front), John Pentecost, Colin Russel, Peter Kendall '68, Phil Reilly, Richard Burt, Roy Sinclair '65, and Roy Little. Not in photo but also present in Florida: Dick Ponte, Neil Bodick, and Tim Blankenhorn.

New 2009 Undergraduate Officers

PresidentBrendan McNamara '11 btm28@cornell.edu	HistorianAndrew Lyon '10 ahl37@cornell.edu
Vice PresidentNick Wirth '10 npw5@cornell.edu	Rush ChairChris Burt '10 crb43@cornell.edu
TreasurerKevin Frank '10 kmf43@cornell.edu	Summer House ManEvan Palmer '10 emp68@cornell.edu
Asst. TreasurerMax Weisz '11 maxweisz07@gmail.com	Technology ChairMike Chen '11 miiikoh@gmail.com
Social ChairCole Lupolli '12 cpl27@cornell.edu	Victory ClubMax Weisz '11Andrew Lyon '10
Asst. Social ChairAndres Betancourt '12 ahb63@cornell.edu	PhilanthropyRob Morrissey '12 rhmorrissey@gmail.com
House ManagerJoe DiSalvo '12 motox430@gmail.com	Alumni RelationsJames Rockas '12 james.rockas@gmail.com
Asst. House ManagerMax Weisz '11	IFC RepresentativeMike Chen '11
StewardNoah Chhibber '11 noah.chhibber@gmail.com	Literary ChairJacob Goldstein '10 jag242@cornell.edu

IFC Elects New Spring 2009 Board

In executive board elections for Cornell's Interfraternity Council, four executive positions were up for election.

Alpha Delt's Eric Blair '10 was elected vice president for recruitment out of two candidates.

Our alumni salute Eric for his engagement in campus-wide Greek activities.

We congratulate him on this vote of confidence from his peers. We know he will be an effective ambassador for the Phi on campus and in the local community.

Celebrating 140 Years of Alpha Delta Phi at Cornell University

It was shortly after Cornell University's founding in 1868 that several national fraternities began taking steps to organize chapters at the new institution. Alpha Delta Phi was one of them. In January 1869, only six months after students had arrived on East Hill, seven Alpha Delta alumni of other chapters who lived in Ithaca started the formation of our Cornell Chapter. These men chose our fraternity's first 12 members: Dewitt Clinton Johnson Bingham '70, Thomas Castle '72, Frederick Lee Gilbert '71, Samuel Dumont Halliday '70, Harvey Judson Hurd '72, Chester Hicks Loomis '72, William Workman Lyon '72, Walter Scott MacGregor '71, George Henry Phelps '71, Morris M. Ross '70, Henry Hale Seymour '71 and Henry Graves Wells '72. With no chapter house yet built, 10 of the fraternity's charter members were initiated in March 1869 at the Rochester Chapter—with assistance by brothers from Hamilton and Hobart Colleges. Bingham and Halliday had been previously initiated at the Hamilton Chapter. The new Alpha Delta Phi was the fourth fraternity at Cornell, following closely chapters of Zeta Psi, Chi Phi, and Kappa Alpha.*

Today, 140 years after our founding, we are strong, full of vigor and vitality, and preparing for this new century of shaping the leaders and literary men of tomorrow. While the Phi of today might seem foreign upon first examination by our founders, they would soon discover that the fraternity they created has evolved into an august and enduring institution on the Cornell campus that is respected and admired by its peers internationally.

While the world economy is currently in a period of contraction, the brothers of Alpha Delta Phi are taking stock of our strengths and overcoming the doubts that could doom organizations of lesser vision and commitment. We currently have 16 new members and we expect 29 brothers to live in the Phi next year. Expenses are met by the undergraduates when they have between 25-30 brothers living in the Phi. However, the expenses that alumni are responsible for are rising quickly, including ongoing repairs and maintenance, school and property taxes, snow plowing, lawn care, insurance, property management, website, newsletters, and other alumni communications.

Presently, our financial situation is secure. Unlike other organizations that rely on dues-paying members and donations, our 2008-2009 contributions have remained fairly level. As a result, no major interruptions in programs or operations will occur, despite the financial uncertainties we all face. Naturally, large infrastructure investments will have to wait for the funding to be secured. Our planned upgrades and renovations to bathrooms, the kitchen, the Goat House, and the heating system will be contingent upon funding.

However, small and visible renovation projects will continue,

including radiator replacements, refinishing wood paneling in the Great Hall, electrical upgrades, and the usual host of unexpected, yet urgent needs that always arise in the tender loving care of a historic fraternity house such as we enjoy.

What can I do to help? This is a question the House Corporation loves to hear. The board of the Cornell Star & Crescent Foundation has created a new giving level: **The George Robinson Dean Chair Fund**. As you will recall, George R. Dean was the original architect of the Phi and a fellow of the Prairie School, along with Frank Lloyd Wright.

The Foundation seeks donations of \$500 or more to help pay for overdue repairs to historic paneling, woodwork, and dining room chairs. In return for your \$500-plus donation, a brass plaque with your name and class year will be placed upon a Dean chair in the dining room. Many brothers will remember a similar campaign conducted by G. Lauriston Walsh '61 and Richard Aubrecht '66 in the late 1980s.

The plaques from that successful campaign still remain on a dozen or so chairs, although two decades have passed. We invite you to make your tax-advantaged contribution safely and securely online by visiting: www.adphicornell.org/public4.asp. Please make your donation today. Your gift is much needed and also serves as a vote of confidence in the Phi during a time of great need. Or, mail a check, payable to *Cornell Star & Crescent Foundation*, to: P.O. Box 876, Ithaca, NY 14851-0876.

A number of undergraduate brothers are due a hearty salute from the alumni. Fall President Joseph T. Salameh '10 set a new standard for strong and courageous leadership. Pierre F. Estey '11, the spring semester president, has steered the ship with determination and integrity. I applaud these leaders and also thank Matthew J. Colbert '09, the

alumni relations chair, for setting such a fine example of brotherhood, leadership, service, and sacrifice.

Our success would be impossible without the enduring contributions of each of the more than 1,000 living alumni of the Phi. Thank you to each and every brother for your time, energy, and financial contributions.

Please make your plans to join us for Reunion Weekend, June 4-7, 2009. Planning is already under way for our 140th milestone Homecoming Banquet during Homecoming Weekend, October 16-18, 2009.

As always, your ideas, feedback, and recollections are welcomed. Please write to me at hbs3@cornell.edu.

Xaipe!

Howie Schaffer '90, President, Alpha Delta Phi at Cornell, Inc.

* from *A Comprehensive History of Alpha Delta Phi* by Marc B. Zawel '04. see: www.adphicornell.org/public6.asp



One of the Dean Chairs

The Phi is in Phenomenal Shape – With Your Help it can be Even Better

Thanks to funding from our generous alumni, we have been able to keep the Phi in great shape and at full function; nevertheless, there are a few projects in the works that will help make the house even more accommodating for the undergraduate brotherhood.

The prospective increase of brothers living in-house in the next academic year has compelled the brotherhood to improve the wireless Internet service in the house. The Internet, which works at a tolerable rate to date, will soon be upgraded to a more efficient speed, allowing brothers to do their schoolwork at their maximum capacity anywhere in the house. Thanks to the prevalence of cell phones and e-mail our standard landline has become practically obsolete, allowing us to cancel telephone service in an effort to procure funds for this project.

The 2009 pledge class has done a great job

thus far in helping keep the house running at full capacity. Their cooperation and their appreciation of the lovely accommodations have propelled them to help the in-house brotherhood keep the house free of trash and looking its best. With the help of the pledges, our brotherhood plans to increase the amount of space behind the Goat House by removing weeds and shrubbery and replanting the area with fresh sod. This increase in lawn space will make for a perfect location for barbecues and socializing when the weather gets nicer, and will further improve the aesthetics of our home.

With the continued cooperation of the undergraduates, pledges, and alumni, the Phi will inevitably continue to be renowned as one of the nicest, most beautiful places to live on campus.

Mike Napolitano '11

Victory Club 2009! The House Always Wins (for Charity)

Alpha Delta Phi is known for many things on Cornell's ivy-covered campus; classy brothers, classier women, and the classiest party in the Ivy League. Victory Club, dubbed the "classiest party in the Ivy League" by *Sports Illustrated* and *Playboy*, was held on Saturday, March 7, this year. We were able to raise \$6,000 for FoodNet-Meals on Wheels of Tompkins County. With the help of an engaged pledge class, word quickly spread across Cornell's campus about the upcoming evening with students clamoring for tickets at Willard Straight Hall.

Second year Victory Club Co-Chairs Matthew Colbert '09 and Jacob Goldstein '10 were seen organizing the pledge class and meeting with local officials to ensure a flawless event. Viral marketing and word of mouth were crucial to Victory Club's success this year. Guests at Victory Club enjoyed homemade cupcakes donated by campus-cupcakes.com. Pledge James Rockas quipped, "These cupcakes are delicious, and I've forgotten about my date; I've found a new love...or 20!" In addition to the cupcakes were two excellent vintages from Millbrook Vineyards generously donated by Brother John Dyson '65. Scott Schmutzler, the Phi's current *chef de cuisine*, delighted guests with sliders, cheeses, and a bounty from the sea.

Building on the success of last year's Victory Club in the current challenging economic times was difficult, but local restaurateur Mark Paper, proprietor and chef at Dijon Bistro, an Alpha Delt favorite, donated a \$100 gift certificate, making winning first prize at the end of the evening a delicious treat. As we did last year, we selected a local charity, FoodNet-Meals on Wheels of Tompkins County, so that our donation had maximum impact. Once again, it was our pleasure to welcome the board of the charity to the Phi. It was hard to pull Steve Griffin, the executive director of FoodNet off the dance floor, thanks to musician Johnny Russo's jazz stylings.

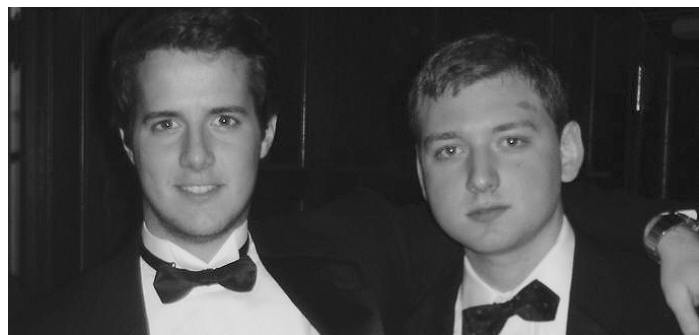
In a few weeks we will be able to present FoodNet-Meals on Wheels of Tompkins County with the check (picture coming in next newsletter!) and the Phi can continue to play a small role in helping this wonderful organization deliver hot meals to the elderly in the local community. As Victory Club 2009 drew to a close well past 1:00 a.m., one of the many Delta Gammas at the event was heard describing the gala as "epic."

To whomever that was, we could not agree more.

We'd Like to See You at Reunion, June 4-7
For more info, see: www.adphicornell.org

Thank You!

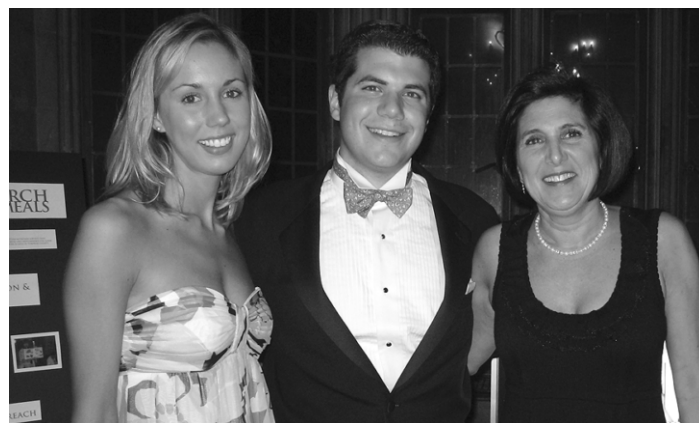
To recognize the substantial progress Alpha Delt undergraduates and alumni have made working together to strengthen their Cornell fraternal organization, a cash contribution to support the Multicultural Greek Letter Council was made in honor of Alpha Delta Phi Cornell. This generous gift was provided by the Stewart Howe Alumni Service of Ithaca.



Pierre Estey '11 and Schuyler Vreeland '09.



Alpha Delts and guests play the tables.



Matthew Colbert '09 with his date, and mother, Lauren Colbert.

ACEF Announces Winners of Theodore H. Booth '25 and James T. Lewis '27 Academic Excellence Awards

Each semester, \$500 academic awards are bestowed by the Adelpic Cornell Educational Fund (ACEF) in memory of the Ted Booth '25, a founder of the ACEF and its first president, and James T. Lewis '27, a major benefactor of the ACEF. Below is a list of criteria for applying for the awards (which recognize grades for the previous semester):

- * The student brother must be living in the house.
- * The student brother must be taking at least 13 credit hours of classes.
- * The student brother must be on his college's respective Dean's List.
- * The student brother must be deemed a "good citizen" by the officers of the house. A good citizen is one who participates in house activities, has no outstanding financial liabilities to the house, and has

not participated in any activities casting the brother or the house in a negative light.

Winners for the fall 2008 semester include: David A. Kelly '10, Patrick Jennings '10, Colm B. Kelleher '10, Evan Lustbader '10, Evan Jacob Levy '10, and Joseph T. Salameh '10. Brother Salameh was also awarded a \$50 prize to match his second-place award for fiction in the annual Samuel Eells / Alpha Delta Phi International Literary Competition. He was also awarded \$600 to match the amount he was awarded as a 2008 recipient of the Seward Scholarship from Alpha Delta Phi International. The House Corporation thanks the ACEF for its support of these academic awards, which are an effective incentive to boost literary and scholarly engagement and effort.

Howie Schaffer '90

The Phi Scores High (183 out of 200) Attaining “Excellent” Standing with The Alpha Delta Phi

This year the Cornell Chapter has maintained its status as a powerhouse among Alpha Delta Phi organizations. Exemplary organization, planning, and alumni support have continued to perpetuate a culture of consistent success at the Phi. During my visit to the chapter, I was able to attend both a Thursday-night mixer with a sorority, as well as the chapter’s acclaimed Victory Club gaming night.

Through these events it was evident that the chapter maintains an active social calendar, strong alumni involvement, and a continued investment in philanthropy as a driving force behind the chapter. The Victory Club event displayed the unity between alumni and undergraduates, and the sorority mixer showcased the fact that the chapter has maintained itself as an upstanding member of the Cornell Greek community. In a single night, Victory Club raised over \$6,000 for the Meals on Wheels charity.

Such accomplishments are the result of a robust infrastructure and open communication with the chapter’s alumni, as can be seen by the chapter’s well-produced newsletter and website.

The newsletter has been issued each semester for perhaps a decade, and contains sufficient content that alumni can get a feel for what’s going on at the chapter even if they have not been to Ithaca in some time. The chapter’s website builds upon the newsletter, and contains everything from a bank of newsletters to a collection of chapter composites organized by decade.

To build upon the chapter’s success, heavy recruitment will be needed during the 2009-2010 academic year, to balance out the 27 graduating brothers from the class of 2010. Alumni have also raised concerns about the issue of brothers opting to live out-of-house for their senior year. To remedy this problem it does not seem that there is a single easy solution, but rather that a combination of financial incentives and unique benefits may be necessary.

The chapter might also benefit by incorporating the fraternity’s literary tradition into its social calendar more extensively, and by concentrating on high-publicity literary events and special guests. All told, the Cornell Chapter has maintained itself as a top-performing Alpha Delta Phi organization, and stands poised to continue this trend far into the future.

Xaipe,

Zachary Pardey, MSDX’08
Director of Field Operations, The Alpha Delta Phi International

For additional details see the full report on our website at: www.adphicornell.org/adphicor/2009/CornellReport09b.pdf or just go to the “House Management” page and click the first link.

Alpha Delta Phi Stands Strong on Campus; Maintains Mystique

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including the Cornell University Police Department, the Ithaca Police Department, and the Ithaca Fire Department.

To further our relations with the City of Ithaca, several brothers met with former mayor Alan Cohen (Cornell ’81), and current Chief of Police Edward Vallely, primarily talking about the city’s point of view towards Cornell University and its Greek system. We also had a meeting with the current mayor, Carolyn Peterson scheduled for the end of March to discuss similar topics.

Finally, spring break will provide an enjoyable hiatus from the challenging curriculum Cornell offers. After an incredible Victory Club

Looking Back with David Shapiro ’01

When the day comes and an undergraduate brother inevitably becomes part of our illustrious alumni brotherhood it is often a bittersweet time. We all love the Phi; many long to return to her hallowed halls and all cherish the memories of our own time as part of the undergraduate brotherhood. Increasingly, however, the undergraduate brotherhood is fortunate enough to have the active participation of graduate student alumni, be they PhD, MBA, JD, or masters of hotel administration. The memories they bring with them to the house remind everyone that the undergraduate brothers are merely stewards of the Phi taking care of it (and its raucous reputation) for the next generation of brothers.

David Shapiro, class of 2001, came back to Cornell to finish his education with a masters of management in hospitality at Cornell’s Hotel School. Like all of us, David was drawn to the Phi as a brotherhood that knew the importance of education but also knew how to have fun and throw amazing parties. From the tradition of protocol dinners to the epic parties of Mardis Gras and Victory Club, David and his friends knew the Phi was for them.

As a brother in Alpha Delta Phi, David was able to interact with an extensive alumni network (which he is now happily part of) preparing him for the real world. David’s fondest memories were of hanging out with former *chef de cuisine* Mario in the kitchen, epic 80s-theme mixers with AEPi and Victory Club (of course). Living with Derek Zakov ’00 and Ryan Donn ’00 during sophomore year in the disco triple was quite memorable, too. The best advice David has for the undergraduate brothers reading this now is, “Don’t be afraid to reach out to alumni for advice about job opportunities. You have to be a bit persistent, but most everyone is open to giving advice on good opportunities to pursue. Don’t be intimidated, just be polite.”

As alumni relations chair, I know just how fortunate we are to have such a strong alumni network who are so happy to help the undergraduate brotherhood on all levels. It is thanks to alumni such as David that we are able to move from strength to strength, from epic party to even more epic party.

Matthew Colbert ’09



Chris Burt ’10 and Chris Gunderson ’08
at AΔΦ Initiation 2009.



TJ Tesfaye ’09, Alex Lebowitz ’09,
and Thomas Felix ’10
at Initiation 2009.

this year and our popular Mardi Gras celebration, the social schedule following break will be just as fun. The Tower will soon be able to be used for mixers, and the number of wine tours increases during the warmer season.

In the meantime, Alpha Delta Phi’s presence and mystery on Cornell’s campus remain strong, and we look forward to welcoming many of you back into our beautiful home during the upcoming months.

Xaipe,

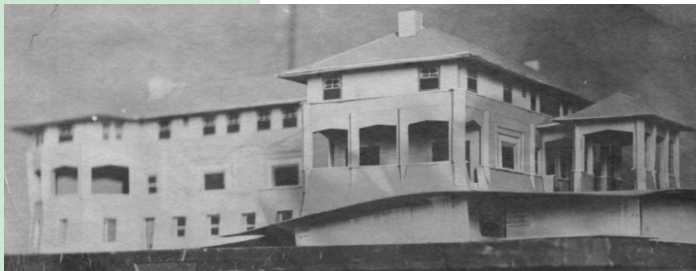
Pierre Frederick Estey ’11, Spring 2009 Undergraduate President

John A. Brooke '57 Saved Alpha Delt

I was very sorry to read of the death of John Brooke '57. I met him numerous times while I was an undergraduate and, at the time, he was a living Alpha Delt legend. As the story goes, the financial crises of the 1960s came to a head when the Class of 1973 was being initiated.

That must have been April 1970, when all the woes of the culture wars came home to roost (Vietnam, the Woodstock generation, a general malaise about anything that was an institution, like Alpha Delt). So while the credentials of the Class of 1973 were being reviewed, the board met in the library to consider declaring bankruptcy. As legend has it, we were moments away from the end when John Brooke took out his checkbook (not sure whether this was literally or figuratively) and wrote a check for \$5,000. On the basis of that check the Phi began its long crawl back out of a deep hole and it is that one check to which our existence, today, can be attributed.

A brother from the 1970s



Architect's model of the Phi, 1908, from John Brooke's archives.

Hamilton Chapter Thanks The Phi

Dear Cornell Brothers:

On behalf of the Hamilton Chapter, I would like to thank the brothers of the Cornell Chapter for allowing the Hamilton Chapter to hold their initiation at your glorious house. We sincerely appreciate your welcome and trust that our brothers left your house as good or better than when they arrived. As of this late April weekend, we have 17 new Hamilton Alpha Delta Phi Brothers. I was told that the brothers at Cornell were fantastic hosts, and fantastic brothers...even spending face time with our pledge class, and contributing meaningfully to their experience.

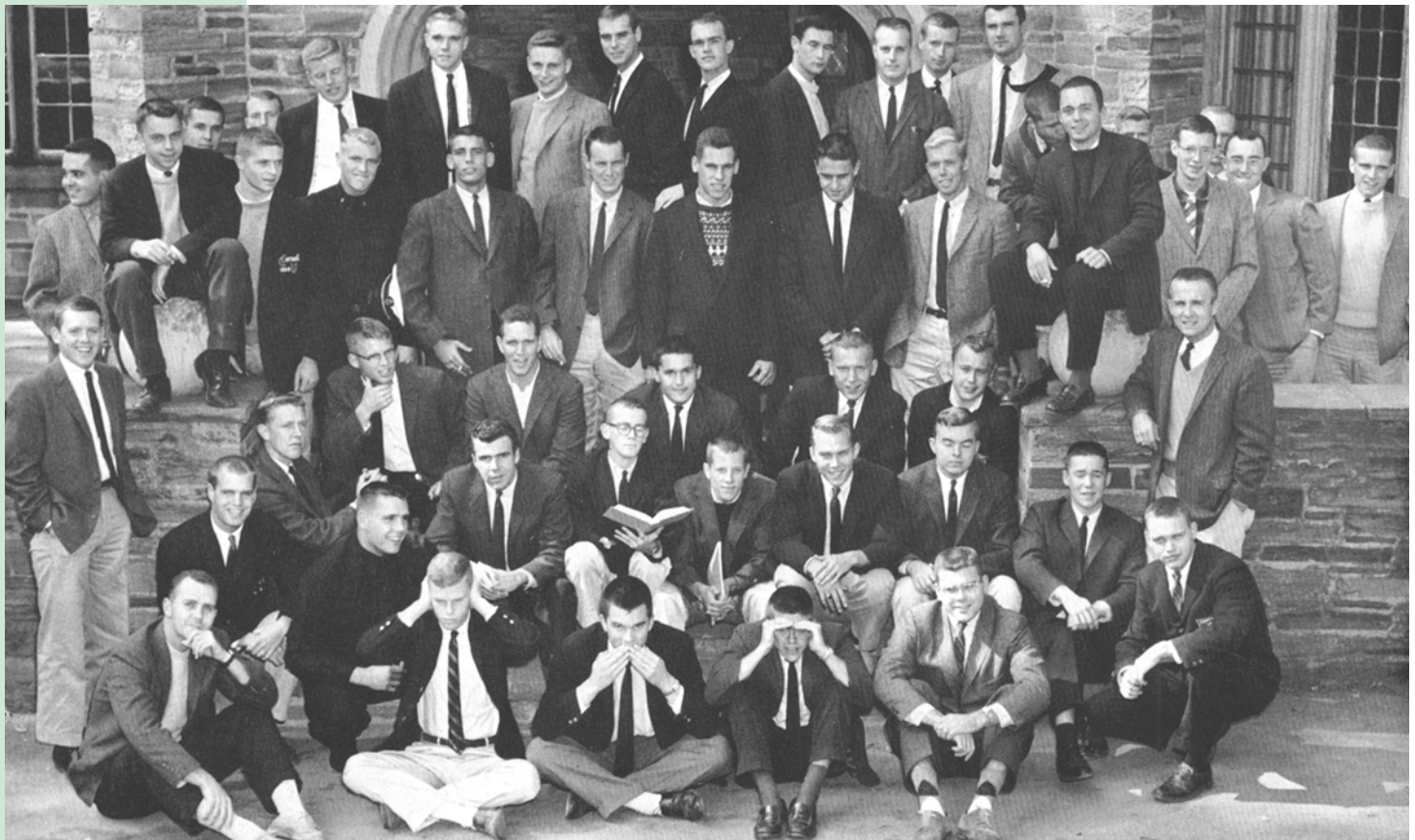
To Howie and the alumni board of directors, I thank you very much for your generosity of spirit and brotherhood. Many Hamilton Alpha Delt have had wonderful pledging experiences at Cornell and without you our experience would not be the same. President Estey, I'm told you have a wonderful brotherhood. I commend you on your leadership, and your willingness to extend your brotherhood, and your incredible house, to our undergraduates. They are extremely grateful.

I trust that next year we can continue to build on our relationship.

Xaipe,

Nicholas Sarro-Waite '03
President of the Alumni Board, Hamilton Chapter

Come Back to the Phi! It's been 50 Years!



Which of these brothers from the class of 1959 will be returning for their 50th Reunion? Will it be "see no evil," "hear no evil," or "speak no evil?"

Playroom Mural Evokes Memories And New Creativity

In January 1947, a mural based on the work of artist Abner Dean developed in the Playroom of Alpha Delta Phi. This project was spearheaded by Jack Rasch and Tom Wells, who employed the help of certain Tri Delta artists as well.

Abner Dean's work as a cartoonist is quite surreal, while depicting extreme human behavior in grim environments. These situations make one try to think deeper into possibilities of the meaning of the scene. The playroom walls before the paintings in 1947 were dim and bare. The paintings of Abner Dean's *The Awakening*, *Conditioned Reflex*, and *Feminine Logic* worked well to warm the atmosphere of the room. Even the names of these works of art make one consider the surreal possibilities of the message the artist wished to portray. Unfortunately, the paintings were lost over the years and the formerly popular Playroom became nothing more than storage closet. Thankfully, brothers Jerome Soustra '11 and Jesse Suchoff '11 have resurrected this room as both their bedroom and the "Velvet Underground," one of the house's most popular social spaces. Not only has the room regained its social status but it has also gained a new mural that is as central to the Velvet Underground's popularity as the original Abner Dean mural was to the Playroom. Jerome's description of the new mural and its evolution follows:

"The center part of the mural is the original section of our new mural that was painted on February 9, 2008, and the rest of the mural happened at smaller scales, slowly growing out to the edges of the wall and eventually around the corners. The mural serves as a recording device for some of the events that take place in the room. The centerpiece of the mural, which was all painted in one day, was not a planned event: Andrew Joseph Melvin '07 walked into our room on that Saturday morning with a significant amount of paint, paint brushes, and said, "Lets paint." The Music Room was, at the time, filled with various instruments and the rest of that Saturday was spent playing music and painting. The mural was a way for us to counteract the ephemeral nature of our society and leave a tangible trace of our time in the house. We are a generation inclined to drift from party to party, bar to bar, without ever paying too much attention to our surroundings, and by painting the mural, we wanted to define the music room as our own space, with a unique visual stamp that leaves people with an impression, regardless of whether its good or bad. The idea is simply to create something that will make people look and pay attention to where they are."

Jacob Goldstein '10



The playroom goes modern as Abner Dean's satirical humor is worked into murals. The sketches taking shape above are, left to right: *The Awakening*, *Conditioned Reflex*, and *Feminine Logic*.

From 1947 Cornell Alpha Delt—the original mural is painted.



The Playroom today is the Music Room.

Rush in Review

For the 141st consecutive year Alpha Delta Phi at Cornell is proud to present one of the strongest pledge classes on campus to its alumni. This year's pledge class is composed of 16 promising gentlemen of whom 13 are freshmen. Although rush got off to a slow start this year, as we were unable to host registered events at the Phi until our sprinkler system was upgraded to meet current standards (necessary for our operating permit), rush built up considerable momentum as we adapted to the circumstances and refocused our process on smaller, more personal events.

To make up for our inability to host an extensive schedule of "open" parties, which is typically our primary method of generating interest in the house and to meeting potential rushees, we placed additional emphasis on more intimate and exclusive events such as Tower Hours and Brother Drink Night that had been used successfully in past years. In the warmer months, we hosted Tower Hours every Thursday evening, which allowed rushees to socialize with brothers in a casual environment while enjoying the Tower, one of our most cherished places in the Phi. As winter set in, we moved our Thursday evening event into living room with Brother Drink Night, a weekly coat and tie, invite-only event. The event, introduced last year by Rush Chair Emeritus T. Jonathan Tesfaye '09, is extremely popular among rushees and brothers alike and provides an excellent opportunity for the brotherhood to concentrate on promising rushees. Further, we built upon the personal relationships that developed

at these events by having brothers take small groups of rushees out to dinner along with other entertaining excursions.

But this does not mean that we were unable to showcase the house's social prowess. Though we were unable to use the Phi for a registered "open" party until our sprinkler upgrades were completed at the end of the fall semester, we generated considerable buzz among potential rushees with our brief but massive, 1,000-plus-persons Halloween tent party. We also invited select rushees to mixers and other social events throughout the fall semester. Thankfully, by Rush Week our sprinkler system was upgraded and our operating permit restored, allowing us to fully utilize the Phi and create a schedule of practically nonstop events for our rushees. Rush Week included events ranging from small group dinners at local restaurants to converting the Great Hall and living room into a rowdy "Texas Carnival," complete with inflatable boxing and a mechanical bull. However, we made sure to complement such events with activities that maintained the exclusive and personal atmosphere we developed early in the fall semester. It is thanks to this atmosphere and careful attention that we were able to select a pledge class that we are confident will make Alpha Deltas proud for decades to come.

Xaipe,

Jacob Goldstein '10 and Alexander Lebowitz '09
Spring 2009 Rush Co-Chairs

Meet the New Pledge Class

Benjamin Anapol '12 was born in New York City, but moved out to Quogue, on the eastern end of Long Island, at a young age. He later moved back to the city to complete his remaining two years of high school at the Trinity School. He is currently pursuing a degree in chemical engineering and hopes to work in the field of alternative energy after graduating.

Andres Betancourt '12 grew up in Westfield, New Jersey. He attended Westfield High School. He is a freshman in the School of Hotel Administration and wants to pursue a career in real estate and finance.

Noah Chhibber '11 was born in Chicago and moved to Churchville, New York, when he was 11 years old. He attended Brockport High School. Noah is an industrial and labor relations major and plans to pursue a career in politics.

Michael Chen '11 was born in Norman, Oklahoma, and raised on Long Island where he attended Smithtown High School. His family now lives in London, England. Currently he is studying economics at the College of Arts and Sciences and wishes to pursue a career in finance.

Joseph DiSalvo '12 was born in Syracuse and has always lived on an agriculture farm in Phoenix, New York. Joseph attended Phoenix High School. He is majoring in applied economics and management at CALS. Joseph hopes to continue the family business after his education and after his father retires.

Gleb Drobkov '12 was born in Moscow, Russia. He moved to Washington, D.C., with his mother shortly after the fall of the Soviet Union in 1991. He attended the St. Albans School and, at Cornell, he studies industrial and labor relations with the intent to pursue a five-year ILR-MBA program.

Philip Robert Gatto '12 was born in New York City to Joseph Daniel Gatto and Susan Rehm Gatto '80, MBA '81. He attended Brunswick School in Greenwich, Connecticut, where his family resides. He is an economics major in the College of Arts and Sciences.

Jeffrey Haessler '11 was born in Pittsburgh and grew up in the suburb of Monroeville, Pennsylvania. Working as an independent web developer while attending Gateway High School motivated him to major in computer science. He is studying at the College of Engineering. He aspires to be a software engineering entrepreneur.

Coldeon Peter Nicholas Lupoli III '12 was born in Washington Heights, New York, and lived in Cold Spring Harbor until he was three. He subsequently moved to Montecito, California, and went to Santa Barbara High School. Coldeon is presently in the College of Arts and Sciences pursuing a major in economics. He intends on continuing his education by attending business graduate school.

Robert Harley Morrissey '12 lives in Montreal, Quebec, where he attended Lower Canada College. Before entering Cornell in the College of Industrial and Labor Relations, he spent a year playing and coaching ice hockey for HK Vojvodina in Novi Sad, Serbia. Robert is proud of implementing a leadership program for Ladakhi youth in Jammu and Kashmir, India.

Walter Ralston '12 was born and raised in Southern California and attended Esperanza High School in Yorba Linda. He is interested in math and science, and is currently looking to major in either math or chemistry in the College of Arts and Sciences. Walter volunteered in Mississippi after Katrina, rebuilding homes.

James Rockas '12 was born in Boston and has lived all his life in a small suburb in Massachusetts' North Shore called Lynnfield. He attended Phillips Academy Andover where he was named a Brace

Fellow for Human Rights for his work in defense of religious minorities in Turkey. He's a dual major in economics and near eastern studies. James plans to pursue a career in finance upon his graduation from the College of Art and Sciences.

David Yunbo Shim '12 was born in Cleveland, Ohio, but moved to Clarence, New York, where he attended Clarence High School. David is studying to be a government major and hopes to pursue a career in either law or finance. After earning his undergraduate degree at Cornell, he wishes to work in New York City, where both of his sisters live.

Jason Will Spiegel '12 was born in New York City. He moved out to Warwick at the age of six to attend school in a more quiet setting and then went to Warwick High School. He is an AEM and communication double major who hopes to attend law school to pursue a career in entertainment law.

Andrew Tanger '12 was born and raised in New York City and attended the Horace Mann School. He is an AEM major at CALS and hopes to pursue a career in finance.

Max Gabriel Weisz '12 was born in Odessa, Ukraine, in 1988. He emigrated to America at the age of five with his mother and settled in the greater metropolitan area of Indianapolis, Indiana. He attended Brebeuf Jesuit Preparatory School. At Cornell, he is pursuing a degree in agricultural sciences. After graduating from CALS, Max hopes to pursue a career in agribusiness or work for a multinational agriculture organization.

“We should support the self-governing tradition of the optimum college living unit — a fraternity — as opposed to the organized indifference of college dorms.”

Theodore H. Booth '25

Kitchen at the Phi Now Meets SafeServe Standards

Among Greek houses, 42 of the 48 cooks have attained SafeServ certification. The executive chef at the Phi, Scott “Scooter” Schmutzler, is one of them. According to Christine Applegate, Kitchen Safety and Sanitation Educator for the Cornell Office of Fraternity and Sorority Affairs, many certification participants indicate that “everyone should take this class.”

SafeServ is a food safety program that involves kitchen inspections to review equipment, food storage, and food preparation procedures and standards. The program also includes training for chefs and stewards. The final stage includes a 45-minute food safety presentation to chapter members. The SafeServ program at Alpha Delt is underwritten by a generous donation from the Cornell Star & Crescent Foundation. According to Foundation president, George W. Doerre '04, “The Foundation is proud to support programs that increase the health, safety, and nutrition of the active brothers. We thank our donors for their generous gifts that make these programs possible.”

To make a donation to support the Foundation's work at the Phi, please visit: www.adphicornell.org/publicpay2.asp



Brothers and their dates in the Great Hall of the Phi at Spring 2009 Valentine's Formal.

From Togas to Mardi Gras, Alpha Delt's Social Scene Rocks

In the aftermath of our 1,000-plus person (according to the police report) Halloween tent party extravaganza, we began our semester on social probation.

Thankfully, our impeccable paperwork (receiving the permits necessary to classify the tent as a temporary structure) and skilled persuasion allowed us to receive the minimum IFC sanction of four weeks on social probation, allowing Alpha Delt's social schedule to rapidly regain steam. Most of the activities have consisted of the usual plethora of themed-mixers with sororities, typically taking place in the combination of the pit and the Velvet Underground. The residents of the Velvet Underground, Jesse Suchoff '11 and Jerome Soustra '11, have been incredibly accommodating to the prospect of having the mixers in their own bedroom, and their help to make such events happen is very much appreciated.

Naturally, we kicked off the series of mixers with a "toga-themed" party, which became so raucous that decorum prevents further descrip-

tion. Also, the house recently had a mid-winter wine tour with Alpha Phi, which, while uncommon, was one of the most fun events of the semester to date.

Last and certainly not least, Alpha Delt's annual Mardi Gras party took place on the Friday following Fat Tuesday. It was a massive party and over 700 students attended. As always, it proved to be a worthy spring counterpart to our famous fall Halloween party, and will surely be remembered for years to come.

Looking on to the rest of the semester, the house is looking forward to both the Pledge Party, which is entirely planned and run by the current pledge class, as well as Slope Day. We will be continuing our Slope Day tradition of mixing with our sister sorority, Delta Gamma, and we fully anticipate a raucous and festive day.

Matthew Collins '11



Brothers of the Class of 1979 as pictured in the Cornell Yearbook. Which ones will return to their 30th Reunion at Alpha Delta Phi? Will one be you?

An Alumnus Salutes the Actives

Dear Brother Estey:

Initiation was well organized and well executed. You and the active brothers can take great pride in carrying it off so that it was a memorable experience for the neophytes. I know it was a lot of hard work for you and several other officers. But it really is worth all the effort, so keep up the good work!

Xaipe,
Peter Kendall '68

News From Our Alumni

Robert N. Post '50 had a fabulous trip to China with Cornell in October 2007. He was astounded at all the people: 1.4 billion of them. Reach Bob at 4 Carpenter Ln., Mantoloking, NJ 08738; send e-mail to zaneyp@comcast.net.

Richard H. Dyer '59 writes, "I retired in September 2008. Now I'm focusing on a 'punch list' of home and Cape Cod projects. Seasonal activities involve family and friends, travel, and volunteer work. I count on rowing for exercise and admire Alpha Delt's such as **Dan Hall '59** who came to this year's Head of the Charles. I also appreciate Cornell Alpha Delt reunions and my connections in Alumni Crew and the Cornell Rowing Association. Great work by our *Cornell Alpha Delt* newsletter communicators. Xaipei!" Stay in touch with Rick at 306 Black Rock Rd., Watertown, CT 06795; rdyerdoc@optonline.net.

Bruce J. Abbey '65 is now living and teaching in Florence, Italy. Write to him at 21 Borgo La Croce, Florence, 50121 ITALY. Send e-mail to bjabbey@syr.edu.

Roger P. Joseph '73 reports, "Patricia Palmer and I were married on April 12, 2008, at the historic St. Stephen's Church in Boston." Send congratulations to 65 E India Row, #35F, Boston, MA 02110; roger.joseph@bingham.com.

Stephen Swanson '90 writes, "My wife, Carina, and I were proud to welcome a baby boy, Sander William Swanson, to our family on April 26, 2008. In December 2008 I left Citigroup—and the United States—to take up a new position as general counsel for the Abu Dhabi Investment Co. Our family has relocated to Abu Dhabi, but we look forward to our vacations and summers back in the U.S.—and to welcoming any Alpha Delt brothers when they are in the region." Reach Stephen by e-mail at sswanson@mindspring.com.



Peter Bilfield '95

Peter J. Bilfield '95 has joined Shipman & Goodwin as partner. Peter will work in the firm's business and finance practice, where he will continue to focus his efforts in the areas of corporate and securities law with an emphasis on investment management, including the formation of hedge funds, private equity funds, and other private investment partnerships. Peter was named "Rainmaker of the Year" by "Originate" in September 2008. Peter is admitted to practice in Connecticut and New York and is a member of the Greenwich Bar Association and the Connecticut Hedge Fund Association. After graduating from Cornell in

1995 he got his law degree from Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law in 1999, where he also received the Heyman Fellowship in corporate governance. Peter resides in Connecticut with his wife, Pamela, and two children, Hayden and Avery. He enjoys tennis, golf, and skiing with his family. Stay in touch at 8 Maureen Dr., Weston, CT 06883; send e-mail to pbilfield@optonline.net.

Jacob B. Schtevie '03 reports a new address: 1259 N Wood St., #308, Chicago, IL 60622; send e-mail to jschtevie@yahoo.com.

Thomas E. Worden '03 reports, "I was promoted to captain after a one-year tour in Afghanistan on a provincial reconstruction team as the lead team engineer. I'll be finishing up my master's degree in engineering management by March 2009. I already have orders to Osan AB, South Korea, for June 2009, where I'll be with my girlfriend, Sara, for one year. Our follow-on is currently slated for Nellis AFB in Las Vegas, where we should be for the next four years after Korea (minus any future deployments). Sara hopes to be married by then but..." Stay in touch with Captain Tommy at chillindownunder@gmail.com.

Gautham V. Nagesh '05 is living in Georgetown and is a reporter covering the executive branch for *Government Executive* magazine. Write to 1622 Wisconsin Ave NW, Washington, DC 20007; send e-mail to gautham.nagesh@gmail.com.

Daniel R. Kaiser '07 is "livin' the Napa Valley life." He's the wine director at JoLe Restaurant in Calistoga (www.jolerestaurant.com) and invites any and all to come visit. Contact Dan at 2180 Mora Ave., Calistoga, CA 94515; send e-mail to kaisernapa@gmail.com.

Nicholas J. DiNorscio '08 has a new address: 228 E 85th St., #9B, New York, NY 10028; send e-mail to nicholas.dinorscio@gmail.com.

Caleb H. Schwarzbach '08 has moved to 2250 Clarendon Blvd., #1514, Arlington, VA 22201. He's now working as a government and business consultant with Booz Allen Hamilton. He writes, "I'd like to thank Brother Schaffer for the time, dedication, and sacrifice he gave the Phi during my undergrad years. It was a pleasure working with him when I was chapter president and I commend his devotion to the often thankless and difficult role he played in our fraternity's politics. My years in Alpha Delt have produced incredible friendships and indelible memories and Howie was a large part of making this possible. Thank You!" Send e-mail to caleb.schwarzbach@gmail.com.

Eric D. Wang '08 writes, "I'm pleased to announce that this most recent pledge class offers great promise. I greatly enjoyed the company of the undergraduate brothers, fellow alumni through the ages, and the newly initiated brothers in reaffirming the Covenant. Even as an alumni brother and former president, I have only begun to realize the bonds that being part of Cornell Alpha Delt has created. I'd like to thank Howie Schaffer for being so devoutly supportive and understanding of the active brothers in his leadership of the house. Few men possess his level head, good judgment, and endless patience. I believe Howie deserves special mention in the history of our brotherhood for this special dedication. My best wishes to all and I hope to see you at Homecoming." Stay in touch with Eric at 655 Belle Terre Rd. #57, Port Jefferson, NY 11777; send e-mail to edw28@cornell.edu.

NECROLOGY

We regret to report the death of the following alumni:

Robert Dodge '59
on December 6, 2008

Gordon C. "Gordie" Williams '52 (B.S. Hotel) died July 20, 2008. He was senior vice president of corporate administration at Miami Valley Hospital. He is survived by wife, Shirley, and their combined families of eight children and 14 grandchildren. In Dayton, Ohio, Gordon and Shirley assisted in establishing and running the Institute for Learning in Retirement at the University of Dayton. They offer 50-plus courses to 500 seniors (elders). There are about 300 college-based institutes for learning that are affiliated with the Elderhostel program. Gordie was a veteran and active in numerous civic, community, professional, and alumni affairs.

The Cornell Alpha Delt

Published by the Cornell Chapter of the Alpha Delta Phi Fraternity at Cornell University for its members, alumni, and friends. News contributions and photos are welcome. Please address all correspondence to the Alpha Delta Phi Fraternity, Alumni Records Office, P.O. Box 876, Ithaca, NY 14851-0876.

Attend Reunion 2009
June 4-7, 2009
at Alpha Delta Phi

