



THE CORDELT

BETA OMICRON CHAPTER OF DELTA TAU DELTA AT CORNELL UNIVERSITY

SPRING 2016

House Corporation Sets Goals for Long-Term Success *Alumni Volunteers Welcome—How Will You Get Involved?*

As the world finishes shedding its winter coat and blossoms once again, I hope this edition of *The Cordelt* finds you and your loved ones well. Spring is always a time for cleaning and fresh starts. It is also a time that represents the last few months of our senior undergraduate members' time on The Hill before they join our ranks. I would like to be the first to congratulate them on reaching this milestone and wish them well in their future endeavors.

I would also like to congratulate the undergraduates for their successful spring pledge class of 10 members and their continued financial independence that has helped them exceed their projected facility reserve contributions, which allows for larger improvements to the Shelter.

Since my last writing, the House Corporation has continued to build on the support and momentum from the 125th anniversary celebration. In February, the executive board met in New York City to evaluate our roles and how we can continue to make both the undergraduate and alumni experience better. Items were discussed that can be implemented in the near future, while others were long-term goals for the next five years.

A few of the short-term items that are in the works include a new online alumni directory with a more user-friendly interface, which will require both undergraduate and alumni resources to build; an alumni mentorship program for both undergraduate

members and recent graduates; and continued improvements to the Shelter, including fire alarm upgrades and a possible resolution to the plumbing issues that have plagued the Shelter for decades.

For the long-term goals, we are focusing our efforts on continued growth of the undergraduate chapter in an increasingly difficult environment for Greeks on campus, Shelter improvements, and increasing alumni involvement. As with all great organizations, the House Corporation cannot shoulder all of the work required to achieve these goals. I would ask that if you have any interest in helping the board in any way, please feel free to reach out to me, Vice President **Jeff Alfano '13** at jra92@cornell.edu, Treasurer **Andrew Howlett '07** at andrewlhowlett@gmail.com, or Secretary **Jeff Catalano '09** at jpcatalano@gmail.com.

As we head toward summer, I hope that each of you has the chance to take some time away from the chaos that is the daily grind and enjoy a vacation with friends, family, or fellow Deltas.

Fraternally,
Graham Seward '07
House Corporation President
graham.seward@gmail.com

Want to
volunteer with
Beta Omicron?
E-mail Graham
Seward '07 at
graham.seward@gmail.com.

SAVE THE DATES

Join Beta Omicron in 2016

Reunion Weekend

June 9-12

Festivities will take place at the Shelter and undergraduate members will welcome alumni throughout the weekend. There will be a reunion barbecue on Saturday, June 11, at 4 p.m.

If you plan to attend, RSVP to Alumni Chairman **John Lopes '17** at jgl97@cornell.edu.

Homecoming

September 23-24

Reunite with your Beta Omicron brothers at this year's Homecoming celebration! Cheer on the Cornell Big Red football team as they take on the Mansfield Mountaineers. More information will be available as we get closer to this event. We look forward to seeing you there!

ALUMNUS AWARDED BY INTERNATIONAL FRATERNITY FOR UNPARALLELED LEADERSHIP

Michael Bonacum '10 received the Bill Fraering Award from the International Fraternity at the 2016 Eastern Division Conference.

The award is named in honor of former Arch Chapter President **Bill Fraering, Beta Xi '43**, who was active in Delt affairs from the time he was initiated at Tulane University in 1943. Bill served as chapter advisor, house corporation president, alumni chapter president, general chairman of a Karnea, vice president and president of the Southern Division, and vice president and secretary of the International Fraternity. At the 1978 Karnea in his hometown of New Orleans, where he was president of a food brokerage firm, Bill was elected as the 34th president of Delta Tau Delta.

Sadly, his days as president and his life were cut short less than a year later. He answered the doorbell at his home on a Sunday in New Orleans and was greeted by two armed men who demanded entry. Realizing these men could bring great harm to his family, Bill stepped outside, closing and locking the door behind him. Angered, the men shot and killed him on the front steps of his home. A Delt could do no



Michael Bonacum '10 receives the Bill Fraering Award from Arch Chapter President Jody Danneman, Beta Delta '88 and former Eastern Division President Anthony Albanese, Theta Epsilon '96.

better than to receive an award named in the memory of this outstanding Delt and human being. The Fraering Award was established by the Arch Chapter in 1981 to honor younger alumni, typically within 15 years of graduation, who have rendered outstanding service to Delta Tau Delta, including, but not limited to, chapter advisors, alumni chapter presidents, house corporation members, and division vice presidents.

Michael's nomination stated in part: "Michael is the epitome of what this award represents. His dedication to Delta Tau Delta goes far beyond his loyalty to Beta Omicron, but to the entire fraternity. Following his outstanding service to Beta Omicron, including serving as chapter president, Michael stayed at Cornell for a fifth year to obtain his master's degree. Not only did he remain involved with the chapter during that additional year, he served as recruitment chairman. He also served as a graduate assistant in the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Affairs at the university and remains in close contact with the office as an alumnus. Upon leaving Ithaca, Michael relocated to Boston and immediately found ways to serve the fraternity in his new home, including colony advisor, chapter advisor for the Beta Sigma Chapter at Boston University, and treasurer for the Eastern Division. He also helped recruit other Beta Omicron alumni to serve as advisors to Delt chapters in the Boston area. Michael serves as a member of Beta Omicron's board of trustees and was chairman of our 125th anniversary celebration."

Michael joined **Scott Rice '90** and **Jason Saltsberg '94** as Beta Omicron Delts to receive this prestigious award.

Thank You, Loyal Alumni, for Your Generous Support

Through the generosity of 90 donors, we've raised more than \$24,000 since fall 2015. The success and achievements of Beta Omicron are directly attributed to the support and involvement of its members. The active brothers are grateful for and proud of the donations they receive from alumni.

Contributions to the fall appeal are listed below. If an error has been made in recording the amount of your gift(s), or we have mistakenly omitted your gift, we sincerely apologize. If corrections to your giving record are needed, please contact our campaign coordinator at (785) 843-1661. Your generosity is making a difference!

Hugh Shields Society (\$1,000 and above)

William J. Cochran '70
Charles E. Rossi Jr. '83
Duncan G. Perry '84
Allen C. Wong '85
Alan G. Paez '88
Michael J. Sonnenstein '90
David A. Kotfis '12

Nicholas D. Stanley '06
Andrew L. Howlett '07
Michael R. Bonacum '10
Jordan P. Edwards '12

Crescent Society (\$250 to \$499)

Joseph F. Doherty '76
Alvin C. Singer '76
Gregory S. Markiewicz '81
John C. VanSoest '86
James S. Schneider '87
David M. Wing '88
John M. Garbarino '89
Robert J. Lis '89
John R. Hazelton, M.D. '90
Scott A. Rice '90
Steven J. Wisniewski '97

1890 Society (\$500 to \$999)

John R. Kissell '76
Lawrence D. Zamojski '76
Paul A. Baginski '78
John W. Pirie '83
Jason S. Saltsberg '94
Angel R. Ramirez '06

Brian S. Carlson '98
Matthew B. Guindin '08

Centennial Society (\$100 to \$249)

Kenneth Schapiro
John M. Hansen '42
Lawrence A. Wheeler '61
Richard W. Augusta '64
Ronald J. Madaras '64
Charles D. Hartquist '65
Stewart H. Rodman '65
Norman C. Scheaffer Jr. '65
Massoud Navidi-Kasmai '67
Michael J. Makes '70
Donald J. Warwick '71

William M. Bolak, DMD '72
Gary C. Masterson '72
Glenn C. Peterson '73
Paul E. Peloquin '75
James W. Lang '76
John F. Brown '79
James C. Storey '79
Kevin J. Kranen '81
David J. Zembiec '82
Robert S. Greenway '83
Michael A. Ouradnik '83
Sean M. Riley '83
Andrew G. Korik '85
Andrew D. Markiewitz '85
Jeffrey B. Katz '86
Matthew T. Berta '89
Alan I. Flyer '90

John M. Overton Jr. '92
Bradley J. Kaufman '94
Stephen J. Heinzelman '95
Arpan K. Chakravarty '97
Joshua A. Toll '03
Jeffrey Catalano '09
Yaroslav Dvinov '09
Patrick K. Schoener '13

Other (Up to \$99)

(Up to \$99)
Annie Chau
William G. Fox '52
Richard E. Peel Sr. '53
John C. Maclay '57
Peter A. Eveleth '61
William P. Huenefeld '61

Brian A. Boehlecke '66
Eric C. Johnson '68
John S. Stambaugh '68
Paul L. Bechly '80
John B. Kendrick '80
Donald E. Phykitt '81
Edward P. Clary '89
Young K. Hur '11
Jeffrey R. Alfano '13
Joaquin M. Alzola '16
Jacob E. Herrera '16
Dylan Hook '16
Joshua A. Robbins '16
Michael R. Rosenthal '16
John D. Salvagno '16
Andrew S. Wolfers '16
Luke T. Zabinski '16
Napoleon Zapata '17

More Delt, Less Self

Sonny Sonnenstein '90 Envisions Successful Future for Beta Omicron

For many of us, our years in college provided some of our most cherished memories and friendships. Delta Tau Delta provided just that for **Sonny Sonnenstein '90**. "Cornell is a large university, and the idea of joining a fraternity appealed to me as a way to find a home within that larger community," he says. "I met several Delt brothers through activities on campus who introduced me to the chapter. At the end of the day, it came down to Beta Omicron and the brotherhood they evidenced, which was by far the strongest of all the fraternities."



Sonny wasted no time getting involved in Beta Omicron and served as treasurer of the undergraduate chapter for two years. The invaluable knowledge and leadership experience Sonny gained in Beta Omicron carried on past graduation and paved the way for his professional career. "**Duncan Perry '84**; **Dave Wagner**, *Beta Lambda '85*, a Lehigh University alumnus who volunteered for our chapter and helped us bring home the Hugh Shields Award; and **Joe Wilson '76** were instrumental in my growth as a leader in Beta Omicron," he says. "Delta Tau Delta truly defined my undergraduate and graduate experience at Cornell and has impacted everything I have done since then."

As an alumnus, Sonny's dedication to Beta Omicron continued after graduation as treasurer for the House Corporation and a vice president of the Eastern Division of Delta Tau Delta Fraternity. He stays connected with many of his brothers and says, "While I now live on the West Coast, I was able to attend my 25th alumni reunion and Beta Omicron's 125th anniversary celebration at Homecoming last year, and it was rejuvenating to me on so many levels. I ran into many brothers I hadn't seen for far too long, some for more than 20 years, and it was amazing to be able to pick up the conversation with them as if the intervening years had not passed."

Sonny hopes that alumni will take time to reconnect with Beta Omicron and be a driving force in the continued success of the chapter. He says, "I want future generations to have the opportunity to experience what I experienced with Delt and gain the same benefits I did. Contributing your time and efforts to Beta Omicron will ensure our chapter's existence at Cornell for the next 125 years."

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Sonny currently serves as the executive vice president and chief information officer for Umpqua Bank, which is the largest regional bank in the Pacific Northwest, based in Portland, Oregon. He has served in this position for more than three years after previous stops in Memphis, Charlotte, and London over the last 10 years. When he is not hard at work, Sonny enjoys playing and writing music with his band and exploring Portland's amazing food scene with his wife, Diane. You can contact Sonny at sonny_sonnenstein@hotmail.com.

Alan Paez '88 Encourages Alumni to Set Example

Why did you decide to join Delta Tau Delta can be a difficult question, but for **Alan Paez '88**, the answer comes easily. "The personal connections I made with brothers like **Tom Stewart '86**, who eventually became my big brother during my sophomore year of college, is what separated Delta Tau Delta from the rest," he says. "Beta Omicron was by far the best experience I had in college and it has been an honor to be part of a diverse, invaluable brotherhood that truly lasts a lifetime." Alan explains that the dedication of alumni like **Joe Wilson '76** and **John Dorfman '49** made a lasting impression on him and encouraged him to get involved.



Alan's leadership abilities did not go unrecognized in Beta Omicron as he served as chapter president during his junior and senior year. He recalls the fun he had working with fellow officers and leaders like **Rob Twyford '88**, **Gus Faucher '88**, **Rob Goldbaum '89**, **Matt Berta '89**, **Ed Clary '89**, **Mark Nassi '89**, **Eric Paley '90**, and **Roger Pilc '89**. "My most valued memories as chapter president were participating in fun-filled philanthropic events for charities, such as the Delt Fall Rock Party to raise money for the National Arthritis Foundation and building a dunk tank for the Greek spring festival at Cornell, which were among the most popular events on campus," Alan says. "Aside from the philanthropic aspects of leadership, however, I cherished the guidance and mentorship I received from former Chapter Advisor **Duncan Perry '84**. He was always there for me and provided the resources necessary to help our chapter succeed. Duncan was, and still is, an all-around great guy who set the example for brotherhood and leadership in Beta Omicron."

The profound experiences and memories Alan gained in Beta Omicron inspired him to stay involved with the chapter as an alumnus. "As an undergraduate, we were very fortunate to have alumni who donated their time, finances, and efforts to keep Beta Omicron thriving at Cornell. I got so much out of my Delt experience and, as a result, this has encouraged me to give back and play an active role in the continued tradition of excellence at Beta Omicron. The Shelter is a source of pride for undergraduates and alumni alike, and in order to preserve the integrity of Beta Omicron at Cornell, we must step up and be proactive in securing a future for our chapter."

Alan makes it a goal to attend Cornell hockey games, Homecoming, Reunions, and Founders Day for Beta Omicron, and he cherishes the bonds he has with Duncan, **John Pirie '83**, **Mark McCarthy '86**, **Allen Wong '85**, **Jim Schneider '87**, **Dave Ungerleider '97**, **Bob LaFleur '88**, **John McCarthy '89**, **James Johnson '89**, **Bob Lis '89**, **Carl Neff '89**, **Himanshu Goodluck '89**, **Jon Walton '89**, **Jason Saltsberg '94**, and countless others. "No matter where life takes us, Beta Omicron has been and always will be a common thread we all share," he says.

Alan lives in Alexandria, Virginia, and enjoys a rewarding career as a federal administrative law judge in Washington, D.C. He takes pleasure in playing and listening to music, watching his son play travel soccer, serving as the rules and discipline chairman for the National Capital Soccer League, which is the largest soccer association in the D.C. metropolitan area, and traveling across the nation. His involvement in a rock band, the Cornell Symphony Orchestra, and the pit orchestra for Gilbert & Sullivan theatrical productions led him to become an advisory board member of the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra.

Alan and his wife, Laura, have three children, Sarah, Anna, and Evan. His daughter, Sarah, is a junior at Cornell and his daughter, Anna, is a freshman at UPenn. Both are members of the Greek community on campus. You can contact Alan at agp1776@yahoo.com.

BETA OMICRON MAINTAINS STRONG FOOTING ON CAMPUS

Undergraduates Focus on Recruitment, Plan for the Future

Beta Omicron has continued its steady growth by inducting 10 men into the Delta Tau Delta fraternity this semester, with a potential addition of six men for the fall pledge class. Our freshman and sophomore classes are on the rise, and I am excited for what the future holds for our chapter. With many seniors graduating this spring and with very capable junior members stepping up to fill their shoes, our theme of the semester is taking initiative. Only through the initiatives and implementation of new ideas by the executive and administrative boards will we be able to continue our long-term growth.

Members Set the Bar in Campus Leadership

Our men are highly involved on campus and many of the upperclassmen hold high-ranking positions in their respective clubs, including president of the Cornell International Affairs Society, president of the senior class campaign, and president of the Cornell University Program Board. To take advantage of these resources and increase our reach to freshmen during recruitment, **Matthew Habel '18** took the initiative during chapter meeting to have a brother speak about a club he is in and provide information to those interested.

Public Relations Chairman **Trevor Smith '18** has increased our campus presence by designing Delta Tau Delta fleeces for brothers to wear. Each semester, the public relations chairman will design a new article of clothing for undergraduates and alumni to purchase at an affordable price. We will send information via e-mail when the orders are open. If any alumni would like to purchase the clothing when it is sent out, simply respond to the e-mail.

Garrison Lovely '16 and Social Chairman **Quinn Riccitelli '18** host weekly Wednesday night activities for brothers and prospective members to come together and de-stress between the weekends.

Ian Melvin '18 cleaned out the butler's pantry so that we have a clean space to store food and snacks. This allows us to save on bulk orders and cut back on food costs.

Recruitment Efforts Secure Promising Future

This year is going to be strong for recruitment and our continued growth reveals a promising future. All the new spring members are showing exemplary dedication to the fraternity through their service as assistant position holders, including **Julian Massarani '19**, who serves as the new member educator. Recruitment is always our main focus and we are constantly building positive connections in the community and within our chapter.

Academic Success Boosts Chapter Morale

Our men represent a wide range of majors, including hotel administration and electrical engineering, with an overall GPA of 3.395. This GPA increased significantly from last year's and is competitive with Cornell's fraternity average of 3.419.

Thank You, Loyal Alumni

As always, we thank you for your never-ending support, your dedication to the values of Delta Tau Delta, and your commitment to our chapter. Special thanks to Chapter Advisor **Jack Thompson '73** and the House Corporation. If you are ever in the area, please stop by for a visit.

Fraternally,

Alexander Lin '18, Chapter President
(914) 200-8821 / al879@cornell.edu



Our spring 2016 pledge class is comprised of promising young men, and we are eager to see what they will accomplish in our chapter.

Jakub Bobrowicz '19
Hanover, N.H.

Sean King '19
Marietta, N.Y.

Jacob Mathai '19
New Hyde Park, N.Y.

Ugonna Erinne '18
Peachtree City, Ga.

Julian Massarani '19
Westport, Conn.

Austin Sterling '19
Scarsdale, N.Y.

Zameer Ghanshani '19
Mumbai, India



Gregory Struble '18
Whippany, N.J.

Eliot Holop '19
Plantation, Fla.

Nathaniel Taylor '19
Vienna, Va.

ALUMNI UPDATE

Norman R. Harvey '55 spends summers in Kennebunk Beach, Maine, and travels to Pelican Bay in Naples, Fla., in January. When he is in New Jersey, Norm visits his daughter and her five children, whom live near the Little Silver area.

Robert M. Jacoby '61 retired in 2012 after a 41-year practice in ophthalmology, and cherishes the time he spends with his wife, Sondi, two children, Robya and Alyson, and grandchildren.

He enjoyed having dinner with **Pete Eveleth '61** in Santa Barbara, Calif., last October and reminiscing about the wonderful days at the Shelter. E-mail: rmjacoby14@gmail.com

Thomas E. Digan '74 works for Lockheed Martin as the director of acoustic sensors and surface ASW programs in Syracuse, N.Y. He and his wife, Gayle, attended the 125th celebration last fall and enjoyed meeting brothers from different generations. "After all these years, the Shelter looks the same and appears to be in good shape!" Tom says. E-mail: digan2@verizon.net

John P. August '80 gained many fond memories as an undergraduate in Beta Omicron, such as turning the Shelter's recreational room into a pool to host a beach party and goose and duck hunting with brothers. John has three children and lives in Buffalo, N.Y.

Marc D. Liebermann '93 and his wife, Rebecca, welcomed their first child, Nora, in May 2015. They live in Washington, D.C., and embrace all the community has to offer. E-mail: mdlieberm@gmail.com