



THE CORDELTA

BETA OMICRON CHAPTER OF DELTA TAU DELTA AT CORNELL UNIVERSITY

SPRING 2018

Moves Being Made to Keep Beta Omicron Shelter Strong

Chapter Must Maintain Values in Uncertain Times for Greek Community

I am pleased to share the undergraduates have added 12 new members this semester, continuing to maintain a healthy brotherhood size and remaining a competitive chapter on campus. I would like to congratulate the class of 2018 on their upcoming graduation and be the first to welcome them to the ranks of our great alumni base.

The House Corporation board has been working with the Capital Campaign Master Planning Committee and the Capital Campaign Finance Committee to create a framework for both groups to succeed in their respective goals and to ensure that at Homecoming September 21-22, 2018, we are ready to kickoff the much anticipated capital campaign! We have a unique opportunity to help cement our legacy on the Hill and remain a desired choice for undergraduates for generations to come, but that will only be successful with the help of our alumni.

If you are interested in joining either committee, please email me, House Corporation Vice President and Chairman of the Master Planning Committee **Jeff Alfano '13** at jra92@cornell.edu, or Chairman of the Finance Committee **Sonny Sonnenstein '90** at sonny_sonnenstein@hotmail.com.

As we head into summer, we are working with Cornell to complete the replacement of most interior doors within the Shelter. This replacement comes as a requirement by the city of Ithaca to ensure the Shelter meets current life-safety requirements and can, in turn, receive a certificate of occupancy (critical for our functioning as a fraternity). Through the continued contributions to our facility reserve by the undergraduates, combined with our generous donations from our alumni, we are in a financial position to complete this project and continue to improve the Shelter.

Lastly, I would like to address the perceived war on the Greek system, which many from our chapter and across the broader Cornell community feel is being waged by the University. While there has obviously been a shift in the mentality of how Greek life is woven into the fabric that is Cornell, we are the authors of our own destiny. There have been multiple nationally reported stories about incidents on campus involving Greek members. To date, none of these

have been Delts; however, as an organization, we must continue to maintain the high standards we all pledged as undergraduates and remain "Committed to Lives of Excellence." We cannot fall under the delusions that these behaviors are acceptable in any form. Period.

As members of Delta Tau Delta, and the Greek system as a whole, we are to be pillars of the community, setting examples for those around us. We cannot fall complacent with the mentality of, "It's fine; it's just college." Our actions resonate far beyond the bounds of our organization, and it is our responsibility to ensure that no gender, race, sexual orientation, ethnicity, religion, or creed is ever dismissed, treated as unequal, or otherwise cast aside by our members, but instead that we stand up for and with our neighbors, family, friends, and brothers. By continuing to strive for lives of excellence, we can rewrite the story that is Greek life at Cornell, and hopefully change the minds and attitudes of those who doubt the positive impact the Greek system can have not only on the members, but the entire community.

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

ALUMNI UPDATES

Alumni News

John Edsall '57 and his wife, Judith, have moved to North Carolina to be closer to their children and grandchildren in Charlotte and Raleigh. They have seven grandchildren. John retired in 2010. E-mail: edsalljj@gmail.com

Robert L. Winship '57 spent four days with **John Holton '56** and their wives cruising the Erie Canal in the fall of 2017. A good time was had by all. E-mail: bobwinship1@gmail.com

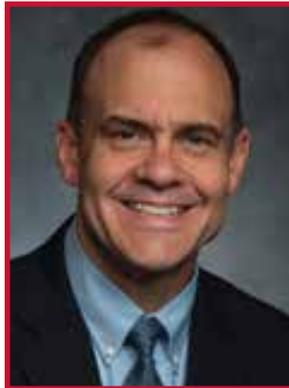
William Seaman Jr. '66 and his wife, Anne, live in the mountains of North Carolina. Bill writes a science column for the local newspaper and has chaired a community land care committee. He and Anne have attended the last two Cornell reunions and found them to be wonderful. E-mail: seaman@ufl.edu

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Demonstrating Beta Omicron Values in the Medical Arena

Robert “Bob” Geise ’84 Is an Exemplar Brother

Robert “Bob” Geise ’84 became a Beta Omicron brother as a freshman in the spring of 1981. He knew many of the young men who planned on pledging. His decision to join became concrete when a couple of his closest friends at Cornell University, **Duncan Perry ’84** and **Stephen Colwell ’84**, made the decision to all pledge together. “All of the men I met there were such an enjoyable group. My Beta Omicron community made my time at the Shelter memorable and our bonds grew stronger each year.”



“I felt the best way to benefit from my time at the Shelter was to become involved. I was corresponding secretary and pledge educator.” As pledge educator, he was able to mold new pledges to learn the core values of Delta Tau Delta: integrity, accountability, truth and courage. “The brotherhood taught me management skills as well as counseling. I learned to interact with others from all walks of life and different upbringings, which is reflected in my professional life now.”

Bob applies those skills now in his practice as a physician. His discipline for quality care of others and learning to interact on a one-on-one basis with people has proven useful to him in his career. He has been practicing medicine for close to 20 years, specifically with infectious disease, which includes the treatment of young adults. You can be assured his experience in the management of HIV, infections in cancer, and immunocompromised patients has been a collective journey for over 20 years. Having the diligence, know-how, and character to see difficult cases takes determination and can take its toll, but Bob has remained committed to his calling.

His education in the medical field earned him a certification from the American Board of Internal Medicine in infectious diseases. “Throughout my career I have been able to use the values from the brotherhood, which encouraged me to fine-tune my personal and organizational accountability. In my first years of leadership at the Shelter, I developed an aptitude to face difficult situations and scenarios that I see in my everyday practice.” Bob is the immediate past chief of staff at Evergreen Health in Kirkland, Washington.

Despite his busy career and life as a family man, Bob still makes time for the youth in his community as active volunteer for Wellington Elementary. Bob is a former chairman for PACE, an educational cooperative program at his children’s school. This is just one of his many give back to the community roles. The program fosters high parent involvement to better assist students to excel in their studies for grades 1-6. PACE encourages community engagement and is enhanced by offsite supplemental programs. He is also an active voice for community fundraising.

Over the span of 30 years, with Bob’s career, living thousands of miles away from Cornell, and starting a family, he kept in contact with as many of his Beta Omicron brothers as his time allowed. Bob and his husband, Tim, have two daughters, ages 10 and 12. In his spare time, he travels with his family to some of their favorite spots like Hawaii, Disney World, and Disney Land. Skiing, running, and any outdoor activity with his friends and family are also interests he continues outside of work. To connect with Bob, you can email him at rgeise1208@aol.com.



Brothers Gather to Celebrate Brother Lis’ 50th Birthday

Last November, a number of brothers from the classes of 1987-90 got together to celebrate the 50th birthday of Bob Lis. The celebration occurred at the Nassau Inn in Princeton followed by the Cornell vs. Princeton hockey game, which Cornell won 5-4.

It was a great chance for everyone to catch up while also getting to see Cornell beat Princeton handily. We noticed the Cornell undergraduates at the game continue to use the same chants, cheers, and jeers popular in the ’80s!

Carl Neff ’89, Himanshu Goodluck ’89, John McCarthy ’89, John Palphreyman ’89, Matt Berta ’89, Alan Paez ’88, Alen Wong ’87, Bob Lis ’89, Steve Aschettino ’89, and Allen Flyer ’90 got together to celebrate the 50th birthday of Brother Lis. Don Staffin ’88 (not pictured) also managed to catch up with everyone later that night at the game. Bob’s daughter, Taylor, was also present for his birthday party.

CHAPTER OFFICERS

President
Jacob Mathai ’19
(516) 330-4490
jm2463@cornell.edu

Vice President
Justin Kim ’19

Treasurer
Arjun Bhalla ’20

Recruitment Chairman
Eliot Holop ’19
(954) 770-1127
emh244@cornell.edu

Social Chairmen
Carlos Gonzalez ’20
Ethan Lanphere ’20

Secretary
Eddie Dreyer ’19

Sergeant-at-Arms
Akosa Erinne ’19

Director of Academic Affairs
Sean King ’19



Beta Omicron Expanding Its Reach in Service and on Campus

Chapter Recognized Again for Recruitment Efforts



Carlos Gonzalez '20, Ethan Lanphere '20, Arjun Bhalla '20, Ryan Slama '20, and Gerickson Lopez '19 at Division.



Mathew Frucht '21, Jack Polacek '21, Hunter Seitz '20, Ethan Blum '21, and Gerickson Lopez '20 assembling the new pool table, which House Corp. purchased for the undergraduates with alumni donations.



Arjun Bhalla '20, Justin Kuang '20, Mathew Frucht '21, and Jacob Polacek '21 enjoying the newly constructed pool table.

Beta Omicron Chapter has continued its tradition of strong and continuously improving recruitment efforts—initiating 12 men into the fraternity this spring. Not going unnoticed, the chapter's work was recognized at this year's Eastern Division Conference where Beta Omicron received the award for chapter growth. This was the second consecutive year the chapter earned this award.

These new members are already eager to offer their talents; allowing our chapter to grow into a warm and welcoming place for all on Cornell's campus. We hope with this larger class, we can continue our trend in a positive direction with more inclusive social, philanthropic, and brotherhood events.

As the philanthropy chairman role grows, our brotherhood has decided to split the roles into two: Philanthropy Event Coordinator **Ugonna Erinne '19** and Community Service Chairman **Ethan Lanphere '19**. These two brothers have moved to increase our presence in the Ithaca community with increased volunteering at Loaves and Fishes, a local soup kitchen, along with our consistent monthly visits to Enfield Elementary School. Following the precedent of former chairman, **Alex Chong '19**, we have taken a more active role in planning and participating in philanthropic events with other Greek organizations on campus, aiming to improve our philanthropic output and giving back more to the greater Ithaca community.

Beta Omicron is increasing its representation on campus. Many brothers have expanded their responsibilities in leadership roles outside of the chapter. This is highlighted by brothers **Sean King '19**, executive director of the Cornell Concert Commission, and **Gabe Diamond '18**, editor-in-chief of *CU Noozfeed*. This campus-wide participation is seen within our new member class as well. Their out-of-house involvement and in-house participation is incredibly encouraging.

We would like to thank you all for your never-ending support and your everlasting dedication and commitment to the values of Delta Tau Delta. A special thanks to Chapter Advisor **Jack Thompson '73** and the House Corporation for their unwavering support. The success that we experience is maintained only as a result of the support from the incredible alumni of our chapter. We thank you for your active participation in the brotherhood throughout the years.

If you find yourself in the Ithaca area, we encourage you to stop by for a visit. We would love the opportunity to connect with you, share stories of our time in the Shelter, receive guidance, and share our vision for the future with you.



Fraternally,
Jacob Mathai '19
Chapter President
(516) 330-4490
jm2463@cornell.edu

Welcome, Spring 2018 New Initiates

Ethan Blum '21
Summit, N.J.
Biomedical
Engineering

Nathan Lerner '21
Cold Spring Harbor,
N.Y.
Computer Science

David Pineda '21
Madison, N.J.
Civil Engineering

Samuel Ringel '20
Washington, D.C.
Computer Science

Mathew Frucht '21
Plainview, N.Y.
Information Science

William Long '21
Randolph, N.J.
Computer Science

Jacob Polacek '21
Syracuse, N.Y.
Computer Science

Brandon Stein '21
Rockville Centre, N.Y.
Computer Science

Cory Koehler '21
Kutztown, Pa.
Performing and
Media Arts

Brendan Mercado '21
Bayshore, N.Y.
Material Science and
Engineering

Benjamin Posnick '21
Syracuse, N.Y.
Chemical Engineering

Travis Wilson '21
San Diego, N.Y.
Mathematics

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at Cornell

Thank You, Loyal Alumni, for Your Generous Support

Through the generosity of the donors listed below, we've raised more than \$27,500 since fall 2017. 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.

Below is a list of our fall 2017 contributors listed by graduation year in the appropriate lifetime giving level. 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)

James A. Patterson, M.D. '65
Thomas E. Digan '74
A. Curtis Singer '76
Charles E. Rossi Jr. '83
Duncan G. Perry '84
Allen C. Wong '85
Alan G. Paez '88
Michael J. Sonnenstein '90
Jason S. Saltsberg '94
Angel R. Ramirez '06
Nicholas D. Stanley '06
Andrew L. Howlett '07
Michael R. Bonacum '10

1890 Society (\$500 to \$999)

Lawrence A. Wheeler '61
Malcolm J. Tom '69
Michael B. Johnson '70
John R. Kissell '76

Joseph Wilson Jr. '76
Lawrence D. Zamojski '76
Kevin J. Kranen '81
Ricahrd D. C. Schrade Jr. '82
Ralph A. Brozzo '85
David M. Wing '88
Robert J. Lis '89
John M. Overton Jr. '92
John R. Hazelton, M.D. '93
Stephen J. Heinzelman '95
Matthew B. Guindin '08
Yaroslav Dvinov '09
Young K. Hur '11

Crescent Society (\$250 to \$499)

Richard W. Augusta '64
Ronald J. Madaras '64
Stewart H. Rodman '65
Norman C. Scheaffer Jr. '65
John S. Stambaugh '68
Donald J. Warwick '71

Gary C. Masterson '72
Joseph F. Doherty '76
Donald E. Phykitt '81
Peter M. Broderick '82
Timothy M. Ray '83
Jeffrey B. Katz '86
Edward P. Clary '89
Arpan K. Chakravarty '97
John R. Shand '07
Matthew S. Rosoff '10
Shaliya Dehipawala '14

Centennial Society (\$100 to \$249)

Robert G. Rutishauser '53
Robert L. Winship '57
D. Brady Franklin '60
Charles D. Hartquist '65
Paul W. Barden '66
Eric C. Johnson '68
Robert W. Persons III '73
Walter W. Pechulis Jr. '76



Michael C. Murphy '77
James C. Storey '79
Paul L. Bechly '80
Clifford D. Strat '80
Jeffery D. Wolfe '82
Andrew D. Markiewitz '85
Steven J. Getman '86
Stephen M. Shapiro '86
John J. McCarthy '89
William F. Davidson III '90
Alan I. Flyer '90
Paul M. Escala '99
Joshua A. Toll '03
David A. Randell '09
William D. Larkin '13

Others

(Up to \$99)
Robert J. Freeburn Jr. '77
Himanshu P. Goodluck '89
Jeffrey S. Benensohn '90

ALUMNI UPDATES *(Continued from page 1)*

Malcolm J. Tom '69 is still living in Honolulu, Hawaii, and welcomes all brothers to come visit. He and his wife, Karen, are proud new grandparents to their lovely granddaughters. They are taking the journey of grandparenting and babysitting with baby steps. Malcolm is working at KDI Investments, Inc., and is only golfing now as a hobby after giving up tennis and other sports activities. E-mail: malcolmjtom@gmail.com

Thomas E. Digan '74 has a new position within Lockheed Martin as site lead at the Naval Group Shipyard in Cherbourg, France. For the next three years, he will help design the combat system for the Future Australian submarine being built in Cherbourg. Tom and his wife, Gayle, moved to France in September. Their four kids are all grown up and married. Three of them have children for a total of eight grandchildren. Tom and Gayle would love to have some brothers visit them on the Normandy coast. E-mail: digan2@verizon.net

Mark J. Gundersen '76 sends a warm greeting to all his class of 1976 classmates. He has been traveling, doing some charity work, and is living a stress-free life! He sees **James "Hotelie"**

Covart '76 from time to time, but only a few other brothers. He welcomes emails to catch up. E-mail: gundersen00@gmail.com

Joseph F. Doherty '76 retired from the NYS Dept. of Transportation at the end of October 2016. He and his wife, Pat, enjoy having "six Saturdays and a Sunday" every week. Joe hopes to travel and visit some of his close Delt brothers in the years ahead. If brothers are ever near Albany, N.Y., he hopes they'll look him up. E-mail: doherty1@nycap.rr.com

Ralph A. Brozzo '85 got engaged to Kristina Scott. He popped the question via a sign 65 feet underwater while scuba diving off Jupiter, Fla. E-mail: rabrozz@gmail.com

Stephen A. Aschettino '88 resides in East Norwich, N.Y., and has moved his Los Angeles practice to the New York office of Loeb & Loeb, LLP. He is a partner and chairman at the payments technology practice. E-mail: sachett@icloud.com

Robert J. Lis '89 is excited that his daughter, Taylor, is in the Cornell class of 2020. E-mail: bobalicia@verizon.net

Shaliya Dehipawala '14 is moving to Chicago in the summer to begin his MBA at the University of Chicago Booth School of Business. Shaliya is honored to have served our country in the 82nd Airborne Division. E-mail: sd398@cornell.edu

Chapter Eternal

Eustace E. Reagle Jr. '42 entered Chapter Eternal on February 24, 2017.

Michael H. Cole '69 entered Chapter Eternal on April 9, 2013. His wife, Jeanne, shares that he died after a sudden onset of a rare brain disease called Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (CJD). He retired in January of 2013, selling the family business, Cape Associates, to his three children, Matthew, Lindsay, and Casey. Michael's family set up the Michael H. Cole Charitable Giving Foundation, which hosts a golf tournament each May on Cape Cod to raise funds for the foundation. For more info, email jcole49@yahoo.com. Donations can also be sent to P.O. Box 1858, North Eastham, MA 02651-1858