

# Undergraduate President Reports On Chapter

Brothers, welcome to the latest edition of *The Cordelt*. I hope this issue finds you all in good health and living the values that our fraternity holds dear. Once again, the undergraduates of Beta Omicron have much good news to report, as our brothers continue to strive for excellence in their own lives and for our chapter.

This summer, Beta Omicron was respectfully represented at Karnea by two undergraduates, Randy Lariar '08 and I, and two alumni, Joe Wilson '76 and Chris Litvin '05. The Brickyard Karnea, aptly named as it fell on a race weekend in Indianapolis, proved to be an exciting event, allowing brothers to learn from others and reflect on themselves. Perhaps the most inspiring aspect of the trip, however, was the tour of national headquarters. Surrounded by national history and reminders of our fraternity values, we undergraduates were filled with a desire to learn more of our own chapter history. This experience has certainly manifested itself upon the brothers' return. Old chapter minutes, a long-forgotten part of our house library, have been uncovered, with some entries often read aloud. Plans to further reconnect with our own past are in the works, and a house history project will most likely arise in the near future.

On the philanthropic front, we plan to build on the success of last year's Strike Out NF campaign. The bowling event, which raised over \$6,000 and recognition in *The Rainbow*, was a massive success, thanks in large part to the unyielding devotion of Marshall Thomas '06 and the tremendous

support of alumni donors. Our chapter, led by our new philanthropy chairman, Andrew Howlett '07, continued this success with a 5K race held in November and co-sponsored with AOPi. Again supporting the Children's Tumor Foundation, the event concentrated on donors from the Cornell community, increasing awareness for NF on our campus and raising over \$1,000.

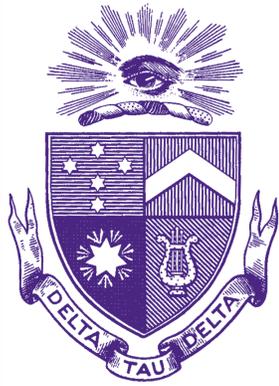
Rush continues to be an area of concentration for our chapter. Our fall pledge class was inducted during Homecoming weekend. Potential new members are also being recruited from the freshman class in preparation for formal recruitment in the spring. Brother Randy Lariar '08, our rush chairman, has been working hard to bring undergrad-

man to the house by using events such as barbecues and open dinners to connect brothers with prospective new members. The upcoming formal recruitment will be a critical week for the long-term success of our chapter, but we will rise to the challenge.

Homecoming weekend is an exciting time to be a Delt—and more specifically, a member of Beta Omicron—and this year was no exception. Homecoming 2006 was as large a success as it has been in the past. It was great to have had the opportunity to meet many of you there and enjoy the strength of our chapter.

Fraternally,  
John Shand '07  
Undergraduate President

“...our brothers continue to strive for excellence in their own lives and for our chapter.”



Members of the Class of '89 and their families gather for a vacation in the Outer Banks.

## Brothers Help Raise Money For Children's Tumor Foundation

Continuing the tradition of active Delt philanthropy that began last semester with Marshall Thomas' ('06) coordination of the hugely successful "Strike Out NF" bowling tournament, Delta Tau Delta joined with Alpha Omicron Pi to host another successful philanthropy to benefit the Children's Tumor Foundation—a 5K run held at the Cornell Plantations on November 5, 2006.

The chapter made the Children's Tumor Foundation its official philanthropy last semester in support of families grappling with Neuro-fibromatosis (NF). John McCarthy's ('89) daughter, Aidan, suffers from NF; it is a debilitating genetic disorder that causes tumors to grow on nerves and non-nervous tissue throughout the body and affects over 100,000 people in the U.S. alone. There is currently no viable treatment for NF and no cure.

The Children's Tumor Foundation is a non-profit organization dedicated to raising public awareness of NF, raising funds for NF research, and providing assistance to families dealing with NF. Last semester, the chapter raised over \$6,000 in support of the Children's Tumor Foundation through our bowling tournament and car smash.

This semester's 5K run was attended by over 75 people and raised over \$1,200 for the Children's Tumor Foundation—with most of the donations coming online through the active.com website—thanks to the support of DTD and AOPi students and alumni, family, and friends.

Alumni John and Mark McCarthy were instrumental in helping to set up the fundraising aspects. Philanthropy Chair Andy Howlett '07 planned and coordinated the event with the participation and support of the entire chapter. We plan to continue this encouraging trend of successful philanthropy events by holding the Strike Out NF Bowling Tournament again next spring.

Children's  
Tumor Foundation™

Ending Neurofibromatosis Through Research

## Beta Omicron Goes To Karnea

The little purple books we give to our new pledges describing the national fraternity really don't do it justice: Reading in them about the gathering of Delts every other year to elect an arch chapter and set fraternity policies is a dry and uninspiring experience.

It didn't prepare me for my arrival in Indianapolis this summer or my trip from the airport and to a hotel covered in everything Delt. Our letters were showing on almost all the people in the hotel. You couldn't walk from the front lobby to your room without seeing a bunch of Delts. We all came from all over for the same things: swapping stories, trading ideas, and planning for the future.

It didn't take long to meet up with brothers Chris Litvin '05 and John Shand '07, who had made it out ahead of me. We three Beta Omicrons represented Cornell at Karnea—a celebration of 148 years of existence, an education about how to better run our chapter, and a business session to perform the duties of the fraternity.

Over 700 Delts and their families participated in the activities, which included more than just classes and meetings. As part of the festivities, a dozen charter buses were taken with police escort to the Brickyard Racetrack

the day before the Allstate 400. More buses took participants to a barbecue at the new national headquarters. Friday morning featured a Karnea-wide day of service, where we found ourselves helping out at a daycare. The children loved every minute of our visit, and we enjoyed it, too. You haven't seen jump rope until you've seen 30 young men in their physical primes schooled by a little girl.

A final feast capped off the whole event, and it was quite the production: giant colored columns, spotlights, and the entire arch chapter and honored guests dressed up in fancy white tuxedos. Inspiring speeches and award presentations lasted long into the night.

A little blurb about Karnea doesn't compare to the thrill of actually being there in the middle of it—of being in a dimmed room with spotlights and cameras as national leaders shared their insights and plans, of being up front in the action as the fraternity democratically decides its newest policies and officers, of brothers cheering for a speaker and saying in unison, "I Believe in Delta Tau Delta."

Several days in Indianapolis were not enough to truly do it all and see all our great fraternity has to offer, so it looks like in 2008 in Pittsburgh we may have to try again.

Randy Lariar '08

## Delts Work To Build Social Relationships

As of this writing, it has been a good semester for the brothers of Beta Omicron.

We have seen much more enthusiasm regarding involvement on campus and in bettering relations with the Greek community, as well.

So far, our backyard barbecues—spearheaded by brothers Randy Lariar '08 and Michael Sandman '08—have brought many students, new and old, to the house, establishing solid contacts for the coming year. We've made many new friends and have also been enjoying what little sun is to be had before Ithaca's favorite season, winter, sets in.

We continue to establish more and stronger relationships with the sororities on campus—be it business relationships by renting out our Shelter's public space or by socially mixing and meeting sisters. Most recently, we've had sisters from Gamma Delta Pi from Ithaca College and Cornell's newest sorority, Alpha Xi Delta, as guests at the house, and the outlook is good for the

rest of the semester—mostly due to the efforts of three appointed "sorority liaisons," Daniel Kantor '08, Ben Lipsius '08, and Alec Shannon '09. These brothers have taken time out of their busy schedules and other house duties to be proactive about our relations with our Greek sisters.

Additionally, there has been a larger focus on combining our social events with our philanthropy events. In the spirit of the Delt "Fall Rock" of old, brothers signed on to a new Campus Crawl. Working with our three neighboring fraternities and Llenroc, Beta Omicron hosted one of four simultaneous concerts to raise money for St. Jude's Hospital. Our Beatles cover band, replete with wigs and Sgt. Pepper's garb, took to the less-than-frequently used stage downstairs to return live music to the Shelter. We hope that this will become a more common occurrence in our future.

Nick Fohs '06

## Brothers Work To Lay Foundation For Strong Spring Rush

Delts returned to the Shelter this fall intent on recruiting more great guys to add to our ranks. We aim to build a stronger brotherhood every year, and this year is no exception.

We're going to keep Delta Tau Delta as a place where we can be proud of our brotherhood and our achievements. To do this means we'll have to be more active on campus, more engaged in our classes, and more watchful for a potential brother. As of this writing, many brothers have, in fact, risen to the challenge with enthusiasm and determination.

We've already hosted several barbecues, dinners, and other events to meet and greet friends of the house. While few people on campus join houses in the fall, now is the ideal time to build interest and numbers for the spring. Every person we can reach out to now will be another possible pledge in January. As of this writing, a lot of good things are already shaping up for spring rush. As the weather gets colder, we'll stay engaged and hopefully meet a lot of new people. We'll continue to keep outsiders interested in the fraternity by staying involved in community service and Shelter improvements.

Building a good name for our fraternity outside of the people we immediately

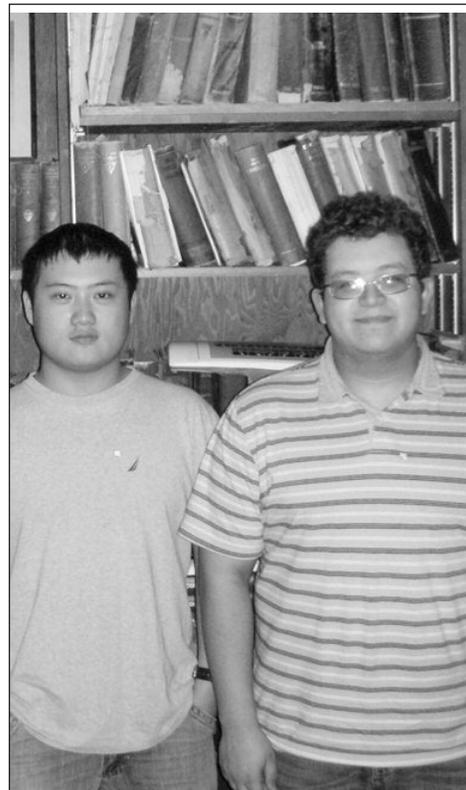
know can carry benefits that last longer than just one rush cycle. This past month, our fraternity joined up with four other fraternities and four sororities to raise \$7,500 for charity during the Concert Crawl.

A Beatles tribute band performed in our basement, and over 700 t-shirts with our name on them are spread out now across campus as a result of this event. Reaching out and working together in such an unprecedented way carries some great challenges, but with any luck, the event we're planning for next year will benefit all nine houses involved even more.

Rush Week begins Monday, January 15 and concludes with our Founders Day dinner on Saturday, January 20. As always, alumni are welcome to join us for the feast with our new brothers. This year's rush week promises to be as exciting as it is critical, and there is always something you can do to help.

Be it showing up for support and encouragement or sending in your ideas about how we can better rush, the brothers of Delta Tau Delta would be happy to hear from you.

Randy Lariar '08



*Our fall pledge class—David Lin '09 and Matthew Guindin '08.*

## A Report From The Brotherhood Chairman

This semester, I hope to continue promoting brotherhood in the house.

The active brothers have been participating in events with other members from the very beginning of the semester. There have been numerous trips to go bowling together and watch movies in theatres as a group.

The newly initiated brothers have participated in these events, as well as taken some initiative in starting their own brotherhood event—a weekly game of basketball with brothers and rush prospects. Later on in the semester, organized football games for

brothers will return.

We are also looking to again participate in intramural sports, including flag football, soccer, and volleyball. Additionally, there were numerous barbecues earlier this semester with strong brother attendance. The cookouts have been a lot of fun, and we were able to attract many rush prospects to these events, too.

We also hope to get brothers more involved in Cornell. In recent years, we have participated in events during Greek Week like the Greek Olympics and the basketball

and volleyball tournaments. There is also a retreat planned to get away from Cornell and enjoy the company of fellow brothers. We will be ordering sweatshirts with our letters on them to promote our house and show our pride in being member of this fraternity.

This semester has been strong for building bonds among brothers.

James Kim '07

save the date

### **Eastern Division Conference, February 8-11, 2007**

Penn Stater Conference Center State College, Pennsylvania  
For more information, please contact Eastern Division President Larry Altenburg by e-mail at [laltenburg@gmail.com](mailto:laltenburg@gmail.com).

### **Cornell Reunion Weekend, June 7-10, 2007**

For more information, please visit [www.alumni.cornell.edu](http://www.alumni.cornell.edu).

### **Homecoming Weekend, October 18, 2007**

Come watch the Big Red tackle Colgate. Visit [www.alumni.cornell.edu](http://www.alumni.cornell.edu) for more info.

# OUR ALUMNI SEND THEIR NEWS

**Reginald W. Rice '51** writes, "Life is great in northern California. Just don't read the newspapers, watch the news on TV, or admit you're a Republican." Write to Reg at 2250 Tioga Dr., Menlo Park, CA 94025; regalice@comcast.net.

"Still recovering from quadruple bypass surgery," writes **John H. Hollands '51**. Keep in touch with John at 79 Edgewood Rd., Allendale, NJ 07401.

**Peter McAfee '67**, who's retired but works part time as a security officer, reports that he also volunteers for the hospice in Saranac Lake, New York, and Uihlein Mercy Center Nursing Home. "Am building a nature trail for them all summer. Will dedicate it in September as the Robert McAfee Memorial Nature Trail. Am also attempting to organize the Adirondack Chapter of the Cornell Hotel Society; have found 11 graduates of the Cornell Hotel School in my area." Send "Sneaky Pete" greetings at 17 Country Club Ln., Lake Placid, NY 12946.

**Richard H. Penner '68** writes, "I'm still teaching design at the hotel school and have taken on new administrative responsibilities as director of graduate studies. I'm building a house in New Paltz, in the Hudson Valley, although living on Cayuga Lake isn't bad, either." Keep in touch with Dick at P.O. Box 311, King Ferry, NY 13081. E-mail him at rhp2@cornell.edu.

"Retired from Boeing in June 2005," writes **J. Steve Sambaugh '68**. "Moved with wife, Fran, from southern California to our dream house in Bend, Oregon. Still working on occasion as a consultant on autonomous underwater vehicles. Enjoy hiking, camping, and canoeing. Just returned from three-day journey in a covered wagon along the Oregon Trail in Nebraska." Send Steve greetings at 59641 Calgary Loop, Bend, OR 97702. Send him e-mail at steves6@ix.netcom.com.

**Gregory J. Melkonian '70** writes, "After 28 years in private practice at Concord Orthopedics in Concord, New Hampshire, I moved to Children's Hospital in Boston and Harvard Medical School, where I will continue to practice pediatric orthopedics." Write to Gregory at 905 South Rd., Hopkinton, NH 03229; j.melkonian@comcast.net.

**Ken Noack '70** writes, "I am still working as a consultant at Purvin and Gertz in Houston, for almost 25 years now. Joanne and I now have two granddaughters—Kaylei (2) and Kathryn (2 months)." Contact Ken by e-mail at kenoack@purvingertz.com.

**Jeffrey D. Wolfe '82** writes, "Spending my days and nights in sales, marketing, and strategy to transform

the energy markets in the U.S. Probably should have taken at least one business course at Cornell. Our company is now one of the national leaders in solar energy, not what we expected when we moved back to Vermont and opened a two-person company. My wife, Dori ('82) also works in the company, also mostly ignoring her engineering degree. Daughter Jessica (17) graduates from high school next weekend. Got her to visit Cornell, but not attend. Sarah (15) is a sophomore. They both get in less trouble than I used to." Write to Jeff at P.O. Box 161, Stafford, VT 05072. E-mail him at jeff@globalsourceoptions.com.

"This has been a crazy but great year for me," writes **Donald J. Haack Jr. '85**. "After 17 years of marriage and two great kids, Lisa and I divorced. We remain friends and have both moved on. Molly (13) and Casey (10) adjusted well—as have I. A few months ago, I started seeing a 30-year-old Russian woman, and I think this could be the one. I finally tired of my tour of the consulting firms and invested in a talent management software company that is growing like crazy. Recently, I saw **Jeff Katz '86** and **Jeff Glidden '85**, both of whom are well. Life is good." Keep in touch with Don at 165 N. Forrest Ave., Rockville Centre, NY 11570; haackdon@yahoo.com.

A quick update from **Matt "T. Boy" Berta '89**: "I've finished my commanding officer tour and have packed up the family once again to make the trek cross-country from southern California to northern Virginia. My new title is 'long, but distinguished'—branch head of mobilization plans and policies for the Office of the Chief of the Navy Reserve. Though I'm in the Pentagon on a daily basis, my office is actually in the Navy Annex...right next to the new Air Force Memorial which looks like a giant metal weed sprouted up to spoil the D.C. skyline. You can visit or reach us at our new home at 12100 Darnley Road, Woodbridge VA 22192 or by e-mail at mtb32@cornell.edu."



## DECEASED

*We regret to announce the death of:*

**Robert I. Dodge Jr. '29**

**Fitzhugh Donnaly Jr. '43**

**E. Chatfield Blakeman Jr. '44**

**Theodore E. Gazda '49**

**Langdon Gibson '54**

**Robert G. Nagler '56**

**Kenneth S. Hall '66**

## join our listserve

To sign up for the **Beta Omicron listserve** ([www.cit.cornell.edu/computer/email/using-lists/joining.html#sub](http://www.cit.cornell.edu/computer/email/using-lists/joining.html#sub)), send a plain text e-mail from the address you want to be subscribed under to: listproc@cornell.edu. Leave the subject line blank, and in the body of the e-mail, type subscribe dtdalumni-L John Doe '99, where the '99 is your specific class year. You should then receive a welcome e-mail from the server in a couple of minutes.

Questions? Contact Joshua Brown '99 at browntown@runbox.com.