# the cayugan

# new york alpha chapter of phi delta theta

### President Reports on Significant Achievements

As the final leaves fall in Ithaca, the brotherhood celebrates another prosperous semester, marked by significant achievements in recruitment and academics, and a successful Homecoming Weekend. To the credit of the leadership and hard work of the executive board. the brotherhood has made tremendous strides toward advancing our chapter within the Greek and greater Cornell community.

We welcomed four new brothers into our NY Alpha Chapter this fall. Given Cornell's fall recruitment policy, this represents a good fall pledge class and an increase in size from the past several years. These four brothers are already highly integrated into the brotherhood. They are consistently joining us for competitions in the fraternity sports league and studying in the Phillip H. Bartels



Academic Center.

The brotherhood has also maintained a strong GPA of 3.360. Through the generous donations from the New York Alpha Education Fund, Inc., we have received a brand new Wi-Fi system. Additionally, the donation will enable us to update our computer room with new hardware, software, and printers.

More than 20 alumni returned to 2 Ridgewood

Road this past Homecoming Weekend. It was great to catch-up and learn where everyone's careers have led them. One highlight of the weekend was the dinner at Ithaca Country Club hosted by Phil Bartels. The undergraduate executive board and around 10 alumni shared great stories about our chapter.

We are extremely proud of the many accomplishments our members have achieved in recruitment and academics this year. Our collective emphasis on living up to the cardinal principles of friendship, sound learning, and moral rectitude has allowed us to achieve so much thus far. I have another semester as president, and I am confident that our progress will continue next semester.

> Patrick Roeschel President pcr38@cornell.edu



### Brothers Reaffirm Their Commitment to the Ideals of Phi Delt



With the 2014– 2015 school year underway, it is important to take a moment to reflect on where we would like our chapter to be moving. The year so far has been one of excellence, and

we hope to continue in this direction throughout the semester and into the future. As membership has increased in the last few years, so too has the strength of our brotherhood.

We have hosted many successful

brotherhood events, which have helped us grow more tightly knit as a chapter, as well as reaffirmed our commitment to a specific ideal of the fraternity: namely, that of friendship. During the first few weeks of the school year, the brotherhood took full advantage of the optimal weather, frequently holding barbecues where food, fun, and good times were had by all. With the warm weather all too quickly coming to an end, the brotherhood is now turning its sights toward the bigger events this semester. In particular, we are looking forward to the upcoming date night and winter formal events. A highlight of our social schedule thus far has been a night of sushi and fun with the sisters of Alpha Chi Omega. As the social and brotherhood chairs, we look forward to continuing to plan memorable and fun events that align with the values of the fraternity as a whole.

#### **Social Chairmen**

Samuel Evans, sle57@cornell.edu (He is also the current secretary.)

Zachary Warheit, ziw2@cornell.edu

Brotherhood Chairman David Torres, dat232@cornell.edu

#### Fall Rush Recap



Rittik Rao

Yun Koh

plans. But before we do so, it is important to note that Phi Delta Theta's New York Alpha Chapter welcomed four new brothers to the fraternity: Simi Salako, Jason Mc-Guire, Alex Ma, and Aaron Waybright. We look forward to Beta Zeta's contributions to our chapter's future achievements.

As this year's Rush

chairmen, we are excited

to share our recruitment

This year has been full of rapid changes in our brotherhood. In the spring, 25 seniors in New York Alpha graduated from Cornell, and since then, 22 new members—18 from Beta Epsilon class and four from Beta Zeta class—joined our chapter. By witnessing the effects of this large turnover firsthand and setting our sights on the

upcoming spring recruitment season, we are in an ideal position to experience tremendous growth and positive changes.

With the help of older brothers, younger brothers in the house are taking the initiative to improve the chapter. Knowing that our goal is to be better versions of ourselves, we are constantly challenging the status quo to work toward building a positive legacy in our chapter.

To reinforce this positive trend, our Rush and recruitment team are working hard toward a successful 2015 spring Rush. Although we recognize recruitment will be a constant challenge every year, we are working to develop and institute a successful and sustainable recruitment strategy in order to help future Rush/recruitment chairs make future recruitment processes rewarding. Our current position as a fraternity is also very important, and we want to ensure that we have sustainable strategies in place in order to bolster future growth and development.

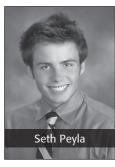
All in all, we believe this spring Rush in particular will be very important, and we look forward to contributing to Phi Delt's future success.

> Recruitment Chairmen Evan Hernandez; ech97@cornell.edu Austin Wong; acw89@cornell.edu

#### Rush Chairmen

Yun Koh; yk567@cornell.edu Rittik Rao; rsr243@cornell.edu

### Alumni Relations Report



Homecoming 2014 has come and gone, but its passing brought more than 20 Phi Delt alumni back to Ithaca. During Homecoming Weekend, New York Alpha had the plea-

sure of taking part in a few activities alongside its proud alumni. For one, despite the intermittent rain and Cornell's disappointing loss to Lehigh in the football game, burgers, brats, and potato chips were enjoyed by all at the Phi Delt Homecoming tailgate. That night, Brother Phil Bartels '71 hosted his annual Homecoming dinner at the Ithaca Country Club. More than 15 Phis enjoyed an evening of delicious food and, after reminiscing, alumni and current Phis listened to executive board members talk about Phi Delt's bright future.

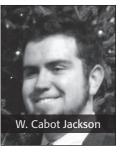
As alumni relations chairman, I had the pleasure to greet and speak to a number of alumni during such a successful and memorable weekend. With Homecoming over, I may now direct my focus toward further strengthening the relationship between New York Alpha and its resourceful alumni base. On this note, Phis will be traveling to New York City for a day or two during this coming October to meet and network with Phi Delt alumni who currently work in the city. Given the cut-throat competition for internships and full-time jobs these days, I feel that brothers would benefit from personally meeting alumni in order to learn their strategies for navigating job recruitment and discuss their day-to-day work responsibilities and career aspirations. It is also my hope to organize a retreat that New York Alpha and its younger alumni can take part in during the spring semester. During such a retreat, younger alumni would share with us their experiences in graduate school or the working world, and all would take part in brotherhood bonding events.

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Seth Peyla Alumni Relations Chairman sgp58@cornell.edu

### Introducing the Beta Zeta Class!

Friendship, sound learning, and moral rectitude—the cardinal principles of Phi Delta Theta, passed down to us in the bond, should form the basis of any Phi-



keia education process. These are the tenets that guide our lives as college men and beyond, and as such, new members should grow to learn and respect them. Being at Cornell, the NY Alpha Chapter faces unique restrictions with regards to new member education, primarily in the form of the heavily enforced four-week pledge period. Any challenge can be overcome, though, and Beta Zeta class performed admirably in rising to the challenges they faced.

When it comes to friendship, I have never seen a pledge class as compatible and close-knit as Beta Zeta. They solved problems through teamwork, supporting one another through the rigors of pledging. Their commitment to Phi Delt can easily be seen through their commitment to brotherhood interviews. While Phikeia, Beta Zeta class dedicated themselves to better knowing their future brothers, even going as far as to interview brothers who are currently abroad and alumni.

Beta Zeta also exceeded expectations with regards to the principle of sound learning. In order to better assimilate them to the standards of the house, the Phikeia were assigned weekly study hours. By working among active brothers, they came to understand and appreciate the commitment to learning we all share. Additionally, they performed consistently on chapter quizzes and demonstrated a strong understanding of the history of our fraternity.

Rectitude is arguably the principle hardest to define. Morrison's philosophy comes close, but ultimately it is a personal path that we all choose. While pledging, the Phikeia demonstrated their dedication to *(continued on page four)* 

### Blood, Sweat, and 5Ks

New York Alpha is off to a great start in terms of our philanthropy efforts this year. We have increased our participation in philanthropy events across campus, sending representatives to a vast



array of events sponsored by the Greek community and the greater Ithaca community as a whole. These events include, but are not limited to: the Alpha "Phifa" philanthropy soccer tournament, Kappa Delta Shamrock Dodgeball tournament, Phi Sigma Sigma Color Run 5K, Jog For Jill 5K, and the Alpha Xi Delta 5K.

In addition to this participation, plans are in the works for a number of philanthropy initiatives of our own. Active citizens within the Ithaca community have been contacted and volunteer labor days are being coordinated with Community Faith Partners in order to build and maintain shelters for the homeless in Ithaca. Additionally, plans are in the works for the sponsorship of a Red Cross blood drive either at the end of the fall semester or early in the spring semester. This will likely be co-sponsored by one of the sororities on campus.

Finally, following the revival of New York Alpha's participation in the Iron Phi program, Matt Kurtas '14 has completed the challenge and raised \$1,055 for ALS research for his participation in the Boothbay Harbor Lobster Roll 5K. Additionally, I plan to participate in a powerlifting competition in May during which I will pledge to lift a pound for every dollar raised to fight ALS. That's a goal of more than 1,000 pounds for my combined total bench press, squat, and deadlift. A number of brothers within the chapter have expressed interest in participating in the program, and it's my goal to see New York Alpha on the list of top participating chapters within the next two years.

> Joshua Guy '17 Philanthropy Chairman and Risk Management Chairman jsg343@cornell.edu



#### Making Strides in Academics

The brothers of Phi Delta Theta have been hitting the books hard and putting themselves back on track for continued academic success.

The house has been getting a bit of a makeover and, more specifically, its academic facili-



ties are being improved in a number of ways. Thanks to our generous alumni, we've been able to overhaul and upgrade the house Wi-Fi network, restore the library picture windows, and upgrade the computer lab software and hardware.

Such generosity does not come unwarranted, however. Since the fall of 2012, the brotherhood has made significant strides in academic performance: Our house GPA has increased from 3.188 to 3.360. This rise has pushed our position in Cornell's fraternity GPA rankings from 35th to 18th.

Since the start of the semester, brotherhood activity in the library has been at a record high. From the regular brothers who use the library as their designated study space to those who use it to facilitate group study sessions for classes ranging from electromagnetism to networks, the library has seen a boom in traffic. I am confident that Phi Delta Theta will continue to improve academically over the next semester and into the future.

Alexius L. Wadell 1936 - Scholarship Chair and Chaplin alw224@cornell.edu

#### the cayugan ------

Published regularly by the Phi Delta Theta Fraternity at Cornell University for its members and friends. Alumni news and pictures are always welcome; share your own or send updates for your brothers. Please direct all communications to Alumni Records Office, Phi Delta Theta, P.O. Box 876, Ithaca, NY 14851-0876.





### Introducing the Beta Zeta Class!

#### (continued from page two)

rectitude by demonstrating responsibility for their house and a commitment to the Cornell community. I'm proud to say that Beta Zeta class, as Phikeia, raised money and rallied brothers to participate in philanthropic events across campus, from charity 5Ks to community blood drives.

Despite the challenges presented by Cornell in its pledging policies and academic rigor, Beta Zeta rose to the occasion. I look forward to witnessing their contributions to Phi Delt going forward, and I'm proud to call them my brothers. Without further ado, here are our newest members, the Beta Zeta class:

- Jason McGuire Norwood, Massachusetts Hotel Administration
- Alex Mui New Brunswick, New Jersey Applied Economics and Management
- Simi Salako Bergenfield, New Jersey Applied Economics and Management
- Aaron Waybright Gettysburg, Pennsylvania Biology

W. Cabot Jackman 1908 Phikeia Educator Fall 2014 wcj38@cornell.edu

### Alumni Send Their News

James VanArsdale III '41 retired in around 2007, and has two dairy farms operated by his sons, James and Peter. He has spent the winters in Jamaica for the past 10 years. James has 12 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. He is still happily married to Suzanne, a Cornell Tri Delta. He reports that his wife and children are close and take good care of him! (71 Park Rd. E, P.O. Box 506, Castile, NY 14427; sznnvnars@aol.com)

**John Bourne '47** just turned 90 and is still active! He keeps busy with his theater group. John was honored by them as they changed the name of the theater to The John Bourne Theater. He's also done a little traveling. Send congratulations to 234 Baltic St., #1, Brooklyn, NY 11201.

"At age 85, I wrote my own obituary ... it turned our to be an interesting exercise," reported **Tom Orbison '52**. Contact him at 820 Grandview Rd., Hortonville, WI 54944; jean.orbison@yahoo.com.

**Peter Whiteford '54** retired and is helping his wife with her publishing business. They have a house in Park City, Utah, and hope to move there permanently in the next two years. He wrote, "Houston is a great city for the young, but I'm 84 years old. I hope to write a memoir of my grandfather and a biography of my father!" Send email to Pete at peterwhiteford@hotmail.com. William Seymour '57 shared, "Congrats to Jim Rosborough '58 for coming in ninth in his age bracket in the Milwaukee Triathlon! His standing qualified him to race in the International Championships in Chicago in 2015." Send congrats to Jim at naomijim@hal-pc. org. (Write to William at 278 Churchill, Northfield, IL 60093; bseym@aol.com)

"Following my retirement in 2002 from a NYC-based career in human resources, I took up an almost forgotten passion: writing and teaching," reports Joe McKay '61. "These I do on the North Fork of Eastern Long Island. One result is my newly published book, Crazy About Words-delightful insights on our incredible English language available on Amazon. I teach poetry, literature, reading for pleasure, and of course, Crazy About Words. I also 'preach' regularly at Universalist Unitarian Churches in Florida (winter) and Eastern Long Island. I am very active in environmental and land preservation issues and in local history and heritage preservation activities. All together, a busy and happy life in a beautiful part of the world where I hike and swim to my heart's content. I frequently recall our wild and happy times at 2 Ridgewood Road. I would love to hear from old bros!" Reconnect with Joe by writing to 94 Thompson (continued on page six)

### 2013–2014 Honor Roll of Donors ... We Thank You.

NEW YORK ALPHA ASSOCIATION (\$500 or more) Philip H. Bartels '71 Andrew R. McGaan '83

#### BUILDING FUND

(\$200–\$499) Stephen W. Adams '65 Richard J. Bradley '63 David H. Cofrin '70 Carl W. Foss Jr. '50 Michael A. Gibson '65 George H. Hancher '60 Wendel F. Kent '49 Stanley E. Kolbe Jr. '76 James W. Montanari '68 Robert D. Petersen '52 Walter K. Priester '49 James H. Vaughn '49 Paul Vizcarrondo Jr. '70 John L. Wheeler '72

#### SPECIAL PROJECT LEADERSHIP (\$100-\$199)

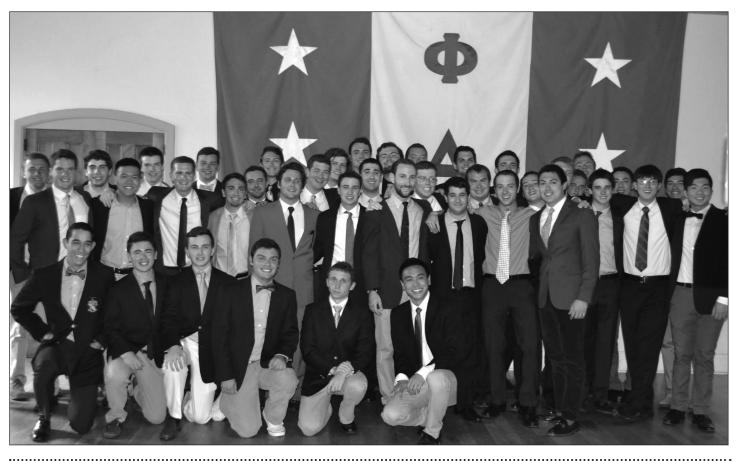
Harry Clifton Ames III '62 Peter H. Bell '86 John Bourne '47 John M. Burlingame '77 James A. Christ '83 Michael S. Conlin '76 Brian D. Dunn '77 J. Michael Farrell '52 Ferris G. Gorra '64 Christopher L. Graham '70 Ralph E. Grimm '72 Allen A. Hinman '64 Joseph Hinsey IV '53\* Jay A. Keller '62 Philip D. Matheson '57 Joseph A. McKay '61 Raymond E. Meagher Jr. '57 R. Alan Miller '70 Erik M. O'Neill '87 James J. Parker '63 Robert L. Parry '80 John H. Robinson '41 Peter A. Rogers '86 Richard G. Rutledge '55 Craig T. Standen '87 Charles C. Wallace Jr. '75

RESTORATION & MAINTENANCE SUPPORT (\$50–\$99) William J. Bain Jr. '52 David Reece Broderdorf '04 John L. Cayer '90 Robert A. Chu '04 Glenn P. Davis '75 William D. Dickinson '60 David C. Dunn '80 Bruce J. Haupt Jr. '80 Douglas A. Hayward '79 Jerome M. Jenkins '51 Maxim Orlov '08 Jeremy P. Rosenweig '08

#### ANNUAL DUES

James H. Anders '74 Jonathan D. Bellante 06 Bernie J. Daigle Jr. '02 Kenneth R. David '48 Mark D. Dennis '92 Richard M. Feliciano '64 Sky Daniel Fogal '09 Bradley T. Hanpeter '80 Kerry Heubeck '65 Dunbar S. G. King '44 Matthew Kurtas '14 Peter E. Lee '63 Alexander F. Rodriguez '14 James H. VanArsdale III '41 John E. Wilson Jr. '66 Thomas G. Wyman '44

\*now deceased



# alumni send their news

#### (continued from page four)

Blvd., Greenport, NY 11944; or by sending email to swimmerjoe@mac.com.

Jay Keller '62 stopped and visited with Clif Ames '62 and Rita, then Jim Moore '62 on his way from Florida to our camp in Burlington, Vermont, this past spring. All is well with them! (1400 Old Shoreline Trl., Deland, FL 32724; jau@twokellers.com)

"I spent 45 years as a project manager in the international offshore oil and gas production business," writes Beverly Edwards Jr. '65. "I was based in Houston, Texas, but I did projects stationed all over the world-Canada, U.S., Mexico, Trinidad, Brazil, Europe, Africa, Japan, New Zealand, etc. Now I function as a consulting engineer. I am living on my Ouachita River ranch in the Ouachita Mountains of Western Arkansas operating my three ranches in Western Arkansas and Eastern Oklahoma. I have bought several miles of mountain rivers to fly fish (see photo below), plus many ranch lakes to fish. Deer and wild turkey are our neighbors in our yard." Keep in touch with Beverly by writing to 2905 Highway 88 W., Oden, AR 71961; or by sending email to bev.edwards43@gmail.com.

"Our youngest graduated from college and now all three kids are living and working in New York City," writes Brian



**Dunn '77.** "We are selling the house and are splitting time between a condo in Tuckahoe and a beach house in Long Island. I am retiring in 2015. Got to see **Phil Krebs '79** in Nashville, **Stan Kolbe '76** in D.C., and **John Donnelly '78** in New York City." Catch up with Brian by sending postal mail to 1 Scarsdale Rd., Apt. 512, Tuckahoe, NY 10707; or by sending email to bddunn@optonline.net.

**Craig Standen '87** reported, "Our family moved to Wayne, Pennsylvania, in July 2014, after taking a new job with SEI Investments (based in Oaks, Pennsylvania), and commuting back and forth from Chicago. We'll miss the Windy City and being so close to a lot of Phis in Chicagoland, but we are enjoying the change. For any Phis in the area, please look us up at 116 Pine Tree Rd., Wayne, PA 19087 or cstanden@sbcglobal.net."

"After a great career at S.C. Johnson, I moved to another terrific Wisconsin company, Kimberly-Clark," writes John Cayer '90. "I started in the division that makes Cottonelle, Scott, Viva, and Kleenex, earning the nickname 'VP TP'. This summer I moved to the Vice President Global Marketing role. I work in both Chicago and Neenah, Wisconsin, in this job, plus lots of travel globally. I stay in contact with fellow brothers Jimmy Lee '90, George Atkinson '90, Dan Sidner '90, and Jon

> **Bellante '06**. Feel free to contact me via email at jlc1717@gmail.com."

"After 18 years as a trader and banker in the U.K., I have returned to Colorado to take over my father's accounting pratice," reports Mark Dennis '92. "See you on the slopes!" (5439 E. Oxford Ave., Englewood, CO 80113; mrkdnns@gmail.com)

Jordan Wallens '94 lives and works in downtown Los Angeles, America's favorite "new" city, where he is

#### DECEASED

We regret to report the death of:

Wilburn O. Barbour '41 October 7, 2014

Robert W. Mosher '46 March 14, 2014

H. Follett Hodgkins Jr. '49 September 7, 2014

> Joseph Hinsey IV '53 June 13, 2014

Roland D. Carlson '54 June 6, 2014

Wright B. Lewis '55 April 21, 2014

Richard M. Allman '58 January 9, 2012

John G. Maine '58 April 27, 2014

a financial adviser with Morgan Stanley. He helps individuals, families, and institutions navigate capital markets, access innovative lending facilities, and prepare for a prosperous retirement. He is always happy to work with fellow Phis. Shoot him an email if he can assist jordan.wallens@gmail.com.

**Tim Dressel '07** wrote to us in September and reported, "As I write this, I am overseeing the final stages of the construction of my new production facility for my hard cider business, Kettleborough Cider House. The new building will allow me to greatly expand my output of product, create new ciders, and truly get my young business off the ground." Get in touch with Tim at 271 State Rte. 208, New Paltz, NY 12561; tdressel36@gmail.com.

Matthew Kurtas '14 is backpacking through Europe from October 22, 2014, until February 18, 2015. He will be visiting Spain, France, Italy, Switzerland, Austria, Hungary, Slovakia, Czech Republic, Germany, Belgium, Netherlands, Denmark, Sweden, Norway, Ireland, Scotland, England, and Iceland. Contact him via email at mattkurtas@gmail.com.