



The Cornell Alpha Delta

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BROTHERS AT INITIATION



*Byron Lazaroff-Puck '17
and Alex Gulbrandsen '15*



*Jarro Yuzon '17
and Nick Stieg '15*



Christopher Gunderson '08

PASSING THE TORCH

My tenure as president this past semester, the spring of my senior year, came as the culmination of a long track record of leadership in our chapter. During my sophomore year, I began my service in the somewhat jovial position of historian, tasked with looking after the chapter archives and maintaining tradition. I took my first serious role in the house when I became the social chair for the spring 2015 semester. The experience introduced me to the challenges and rewards of giving back to the group for the first time and spurred me to run for the position of vice president for my junior year. I spent the summer of 2015 taking courses in Ithaca and developed a positive working relationship with Ellen Reuben, our executive director, as the summer house manager. As VP under two different presidents, I ensured the continuity of house government and maintained strong alumni relations for the chapter. Despite the personal reward gained from my experiences at the end of my junior year, I took a much-needed break from the executive board to focus on applying to graduate school, and I did not run for a position.

My presidency in the chapter was very much an accident of circumstance. Around the time I was awaiting my acceptance to a graduate engineering program at Cornell at the end of the fall 2016 semester, I was approached by Brent Romanow '19. Our dutiful vice president had realized that our president, junior Eric Baker '18, as well as nearly every other junior in the chapter, had ultimately decided to study abroad for the spring semester. Taking stock of the situation, Brent realized that there were exactly zero contenders for the position of president for the upcoming semester and wanted to avoid placing an inexperienced underclassman in the role. I sat down with Brent for a couple of hours, and together, we built a blueprint of what a "Jacques" presidency would look like. Having spent a semester free of the numerous responsibilities of house government, I was reluctant

to bear the burden of president, but inwardly, I was somewhat thrilled at the opportunity to take the ultimate position that I had turned my back on in the past. Consequently, a combination of a feeling of duty to serve and perhaps a measure of vanity led me to accept the proposition. The house hadn't encountered much turbulence in recent years, and the benefits seemed to outweigh the costs.

Due to a confluence of negative circumstance, I turned out to be quite wrong. The fraternity system in this country, and especially at Cornell, is under an electron microscope right now. In this climate, innocuous acts of individual mischief invite an ascription of blame to the organization of which the individuals are members. Without going into specific details, our chapter was faced with multiple patently false and absurd allegations this semester, and as president, I was tasked with responding to them. While I took comfort in the secure knowledge of our innocence in these matters, I feared the "punish first, ask questions later" (or yet, "punish first, ask questions never") attitude that many universities across the country are becoming known for. Despite my knowledge of these practices, I was nonetheless shaken by the complete opacity of the university's communication with Brent and me. Through extensive communication with our good Alumni President Howie Schaffer '90 and our law firm, Shaw & Murphy, I took great care to ensure that we were not taken advantage of. Brent and I, along with our attorney, tirelessly prepared for our hearing with the Greek Judicial Board, and the chapter righteously emerged unscathed from the ordeal.

It was not until I undertook the presidency that I began to understand the feeling of personal responsibility for the security and well-being of a group. It is a great burden to bear, particularly during tense semesters such as this one, but the satisfaction more than compensates for it. The

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BROTHERS MANAGE A DIFFICULT SEMESTER

This past semester, I served as vice president for my second consecutive term. We had an auspicious start to the semester, with interesting smokers and excellent rush events. When rush week concluded, we had a formidable pledge class, with which we were excited to enter our new-member education period. Being a sophomore, it was my first time on the other side of the new-member education process. I relished the opportunity to be part of such a rich and historical tradition. Between protocol dinners, literary presentations, and the various other team-building and bond-strengthening activities and traditions that we have all come to know and love, the active brotherhood fastidiously prepared the new-member class for initiation.

Despite the fact I planned and executed our fall Homecoming, which saw the largest attendance of alumni in recent history, nothing could have prepared me for the enormous task of planning, organizing, and executing our initiation weekend. Fortunately, I had the help of brother Zachary Phillip Rosenberg '19 as my initiation co-chair. This year, over 40 alumni attended the initiation ceremony, which took place on a warm weekend in early spring. It was an absolute treat for the current brotherhood to meet, network with, and hear stories from alumni of all ages. The weekend concluded with a group of newly initiated brothers, of which I could not be more proud.

The end of pledging also marks the end of the university's "dry period," a time when all events must be completely free of alcohol. After dry period comes a week the active brothers all know as "wet week," the first week in which registered parties are allowed to serve alcohol. I, along with the entire e-board and new pledge class, ran all of our parties in accordance with all of the event-management

guidelines. Unfortunately, fraternity culture in America is highly scrutinized now, and many are looking for any excuse to put an end to the system that has created so many opportunities, friendships, and bonds for us all. We had three separate allegations levied against us for alleged violation of event-management guidelines during wet week. These allegations were so serious that our lawyers warned us of possible suspension or even de-recognition.

At first, I was sad, frightened, and completely disheartened. The possibility of losing Alpha Delt completely consumed me. Thankfully, I had all of my brothers and, though we were all frightened at the potential outcome, our bonds kept us grounded and together. We met almost daily as a brotherhood and decided how we would handle the allegations. We came to the decision to go on self-imposed social probation, pending the decision of our university hearing. We spent eight weeks on this probation, and tensions mounted. Brothers who were used to having events every night were disappointed week after week. As the date of our hearing approached, I worked tirelessly with Jacques and the rest of the e-board to prepare.

At our hearing, we refuted each violation and were ultimately given no further consequences or penalties. As soon as the decision came out, we resumed our normal social events and ended the year with some of our most impressive and well-run parties to date. While I definitely would not want to go through a semester like that again, it gave me and the brotherhood the opportunity to grow even closer and to come out even stronger, both personally and as a fraternity. Thank you 777 Stewart for a fantastic year.

Brent Romanow '19
Vice President, Spring 2017

WHAT'S NEW AT THE PHI

Through this past semester, we had the carpets professionally cleaned in the Great Hall, the library, the living room, and the dining room. The red carpets at the front door have been replaced. We hired a specialist to refinish the wood on the walls in the Great Hall and also on the benches in the living room.

Magnetic door holders that release when the fire alarm sounds, complying with fire-safety codes, were installed in the dining room. The brothers of Alpha Delt are also very thankful for the new door lock for the

front door, which replaced one that was unreliable after repeated maintenance.

We are also in the process of installing name plates from the past few years on the doors. Soap dispensers are in the process of being installed in all of the bathrooms. We're hoping to have a couple repairs and additions occur in the summer, such as sewing tears in the carpets and designing curtain plans for the living room and Great Hall.

Jack Hooker '19
Houseman

OUR COMMITMENT TO SERVICE

Brother Teddy Roosevelt once proclaimed in a speech titled “The College Graduate and Public Life” that “it is proper to demand more from the man with exceptional advantages than from the man without them.” He argues that there exists a certain degree of social responsibility that we, as students entitled to be studying at a noble institution, must accept. But to merely acquiesce the responsibility is not enough. We must welcome it with open arms.

This semester, the brothers of Cornell’s chapter of Alpha Delta Phi proudly and gladly continued a commitment to the tradition of service: service to our chapter, service to our campus, and service to our community.

The brothers enjoyed conversations with guest speakers that aimed to educate on contemporary topics of growing importance on college campuses. Topics included the dangers of diffusion of responsibility and the importance of bystander intervention and the slippery slope that is substance abuse and the proper approach to save both oneself and one’s colleagues.

Partnering up with other organizations on campus illuminated the power of collaboration and brought exposure to their initiatives. These endeavors included hosting and assisting in the set-up of Cornell’s Fashion Collective’s

Condom Couture Fashion Show, an event that raised money for the Southern Tier AIDS Program through an entertaining and informative medium. In the spring, we co-hosted Rock the CASA, a volleyball tournament, with our Panhellenic sisters of Kappa Alpha Theta, donating all proceeds to CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates for Children).

Recognizing the importance of giving back to the community, members of the brotherhood donated over one hundred articles of clothing to the local chapter of the American Red Cross. We maintained a strong relationship with the Ithaca Public Education Initiative while showing respect for the fraternity’s

history as a literary society by assisting with the set-up and operations of the annual spelling bee. A group of five brothers fielded a team for a local 5K race to support the construction of the Chris Bordonni Fitness Trailhead along the Cayuga Waterfront Trail in Cass Park.

Among the most powerful lyrics of the songs of the Phi are those of “A Gay Gallant Ship”: “Then call all hands and spread all sail, the roaring gale defy!” And call all hands we did!

Dani Ben Reuven ’17
Philanthropy Chair



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THE SPIRIT OF THE HOUSE LIVES ON!

ΑΔΦ ALUMNI EVENT, WASHINGTON, D.C., MARCH 31–APRIL 2, 2017

Following on from the momentous September initiation of Dino Avgerinos ’72, an extended group of brothers gathered in Washington D.C. for what was to be the first of, we hope, many alumni social events, bringing together generationally related brothers from the 1960s through the 1980s.

This three-day weekend event, organized and orchestrated by three brothers, was a phenomenal success. It was attended by 19 brothers and 4 spouses. Our alumni president, Howie Schaffer, asked that we share what was a very special experience with the brotherhood at large, and this in the hope that others might be encouraged to follow suit. We realize that some brothers from our era were not contacted for this pilot gathering and look forward to more fulsome gatherings as

we approach the 150th anniversary of Alpha Delta Phi at Cornell University.

AND SO OUR STORY BEGINS:

It all kicked off on a Friday (Yes! a Friday!) with 16 brothers arriving in time for cocktails at Dean Dilley’s (’77) home, followed by a Roy Hargrove jazz concert at the well-known Blues Alley club.

Saturday morning saw a group of 15 enjoy a special guided tour of the Gallery of Modern Art, and later that evening, the main event was held in a private room at the Daniel Boloud DBGB Restaurant. Some of us could not make it for Friday, and it was an

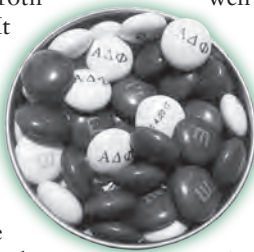
Saturday that the moment had finally arrived when all were finally together.

It was a moment to remember: unrestrained joy broke out, big hugs, “inspecting”

weight gain and loss or absence of hair, running from one to the other ... so much catching up to do and so little time. At dinner, Doug Bond had been asked to say grace, and first Mike Zak ’75 and then Dino were scheduled to speak. In his speech, Dino remarked that the house was also about “stories” ... and then, of course, the stories flooded in, as brothers began standing up to recount the fondest of their memories.

On more serious notes, Howie and Mike spoke briefly about the state of the house and about the issues confronting the Greek system on campus: two topics we agreed to continue discussing going forward. And of course, we were then treated to the idiosyncratic *petites attentions*, as Lance Davis ’76 handed out ΑΔΦ-branded green and white M&Ms, and Howie Schaffer distributed other Alpha Delta goodies. The evening ended at the downstairs bar, before everyone retired for the evening.

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The Spirit of the House Lives On!

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The delicious Sunday brunch at the home of Christie and Jeff Weiss '79 was attended by a smaller group of 17—some of us had to return home early. By this time, the brothers had bonded, and the atmosphere was extremely “familiar.” Forty years had come and gone, and as we left Jeff’s home, the distance caused by time seemed to have evaporated. I think most of us knew then that this was the beginning of a new era in our relationships.

Upon my return to Nashville, I began receiving e-mails from brothers wanting to relay their feelings about the weekend. Here are a few noteworthy ones:

BILLY NOEL '76: I tried to convey at dinner, in unprepared remarks, the sensation of seeing you all after so long. Maybe you coastal types, who’ve stayed in contact over the years, weren’t quite so overwhelmed. I’ve stayed in contact with one or two of you, but seeing 17 more all at once was really something. It’s no wonder I didn’t sleep much over the weekend.

Caught up in children, family, and businesses all this time, frankly, I’d forgotten how deep the imprint of ΑΔΦ was on me. I’d also forgotten that you are the smartest people I’ve ever known—how we fought each other, took care of each other, were smart and self-sufficient and successfully navigated a risky period in our lives. Oh, and had great fun at the same time.

And this weekend was like stepping on to a freshly mown athletic field. Like a single smell that can bring back victories, defeats, brilliance, and lessons from a time when minds and senses were wide open. I have missed it for years, and I miss it still.

Dino Avgerinos '74 said that it was as if someone pushed «pause» in the late '70s and then pushed «play» on Saturday night, picking right up where we left off. Yes, it felt exactly like that.

Someone else said ΑΔΦ left a stamp. Well, for this impressionable, young hillbilly, ΑΔΦ wasn’t a building or impenetrable Greek poetry. It was you guys.

Thanks for finishing the job my parents started and for restarting my engines this weekend.

MIKE ZAK '75: I am always on the receiving end of requests to attend “reunions.” My mailbox is full of them—all the time. I have attended, graduated, or survived many many programs, and someone is always trying to organize a reunion (especially Cornell). I never go to them,

but until now, I never understood why.

Now I do. I don’t go to them because they’re not with my friends. The difference between a “reunion,” and what we did in D.C. this past weekend is that we were with our friends.

That doesn’t mean that, way back when, we didn’t have any problematic friends. We did. But those problems were *our* problems.

HOWIE SCHAEFFER '90: You outdid expectations and did a good deed that will last a lifetime. I will do my best to support more and bigger gatherings in other cities. Thank you for all the invisible work that made the weekend a success.

TOM ROTHFELS '77: I came to the weekend with some degree of excitement at seeing so many of our brothers whom I had lost contact with over the past 40 years. I was also a little apprehensive, because I didn’t really know what to expect.

The weekend exceeded my expectations by several orders of magnitude. It was heartwarming to see that every one of us had made a success of our lives, that the personality traits that endeared us to others were there or even more apparent, and that the rough edges that we all had as kids have been smoothed down. But the individuality and the spunk are still there, in spades!

JOHN BRUCKEL '78: It was indeed great to see everyone! Billy, thank you for eloquently putting into words the feeling we all experienced. Most notably, from an unrelated observer: Jeff Weiss’s wife.

CHRISTIE WEISS: It truly was a delight and our pleasure to host such a congenial gathering. Reading the email exchanges this week, I am heartened by and find wonderment in the deep bond you gentlemen share. The Greek system that engenders such brotherhood is a marvelous creation. Looking forward to seeing you and the group again early and often.



PARTING THOUGHTS

As I sat among my brothers at the Sunday Brunch, I began to realize that I was somehow familiar with the feelings that I was experiencing *right there and then*. These were the same feelings I know from being at close family gatherings. The feeling of being in a totally non-judgmental safe space, where I am unconditionally accepted for who and what I am, of being forgiven my imperfections. A place where my sometimes divergent views are tolerated and respected. Indeed, also a place where, as a community, our relative strengths and accomplishments are celebrated and receive positive reinforcement.

As I write, I now reflect on the 40 years spent in the corporate world and on how many friends I have made in this period. I struggled to come up with six whom I consider close enough and with whom I can be myself. Three of these were work colleagues, and the other three were not. And with the three work colleagues, there still is this weird undercurrent of “competition,” and the occasional one-upmanship going on. With only one do I have a bond similar to what I feel when I am among my brothers. That was a late revelation in itself.

I had stayed over in Washington that Sunday night to visit some relatives on Monday before flying back to Nashville, and thus had nothing to do that evening—big downer after the ΑΔΦ events. So I called Marcos Wilson '77, and he came to the rescue. We spent four hours together over a dinner at a Thai place, which had to throw us out, because we were delaying their closing time! Again, to my amazement, it was as though time had stood still for 40 years...

As Billy relayed, I now also realized how absent this special feeling had been during these last 40 years. So, how, I asked myself, can all this be explained in the context of the brotherhood?

Well, I think the answer lies in what we might want to call the *Soul of the House* at 777 Stewart Avenue.

When you first walk into its walls as a young freshman, you become subject to its sheer majestic structure, and to the nobility of its beauty. At your initiation, the house then shares a message with you: one about yourself, and one that you will never forget. It speaks to you of giving and sharing, of a promise to you that it will support you, just as you were carried on the shoulders of your big brother as you entered the library for that moment of truth when you were asked to declare your intent and your commitment to everything it stood for.

Once an active brother, you are then intensely immersed in the rich and time-tested

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FACT OR FICTION: WAS ALPHA DELT AT CORNELL FOUNDED IN 1868 OR 1869?

The first months of Cornell University's operation during the autumn of 1868 brought an installation of the first handful of fraternities. Cornell's co-founder and first president, Andrew Dickson White, was an advocate of the Greek system as a means of teaching self-governance to young students. Zeta Psi claims the distinction as Cornell's oldest fraternity. Closely followed by Kappa Alpha and Chi Phi. Recent exploration of Cornell yearbooks from the late 1800s repeatedly show a listing of Alpha Delta Phi's founding year at Cornell as 1868. Could this be true?

When we have archival questions, we turn to Tom Reilly '07 for answers. Brother Reilly found a digital scan of the 1882 *Semi-Centennial Catalogue* of Alpha Delta Phi (archive.org/details/alphadeltaphi18300alprich). On page 55, there is a detailed description of the Cornell Chapter's founding. The description includes the following chronology of key historical events in the early days of our chapter:

- October 1868: Cornell University opens to students
- "Early" 1869: Alpha Delt brothers from Hamilton & Yale seek a charter from Cornell to create a new chapter
- February 1869: Cornell grants charter to Alpha Delta Phi

- March 19, 1869: first Cornell Alpha Delt initiated at Rochester Chapter
- March 27, 1869: first Cornell Chapter meeting held in Ithaca (at the house of Professor S.G. Williams)
- May 3, 1869: first Cornell Chapter meeting held in a rented room on the Wilgus Block (on State Street), also home to the Wilgus Opera House
- June 4, 1869: first Cornell Chapter initiation held in Ithaca
- October 27, 1869: a fall initiation ceremony is held in larger rooms secured in the Masonic Block (on Tioga Street)
- June 10, 1878: groundbreaking on new construction of a chapter house at 503 East Buffalo Street
- January 1879: Alpha Delta Phi moves into the elegant new accommodations at 503 East Buffalo Street

It seems clear from historical sources that, while organizational efforts might have begun in late 1868, the formal charter of Alpha Delta Phi at Cornell was not granted by the university until the following year. We assume that any indication of an 1868 founding date was the result of a somewhat overzealous editorial

perspective on behalf of the yearbook editors in those early days.

The earliest editions of *The Cornellian* yearbook were actually co-edited and published by the fraternities or "secret societies" themselves. The first-ever yearbook for 1868–1869 includes a list of "members of fraternities having no chapter at Cornell" and puts the Alpha Delt in that category. The first Alpha Delta Phi members, including Samuel D. Halliday, joined the yearbook staff for the 1870 edition and seemingly began backdating our chapter's origin. Further research shows that in the 25th edition of *The Cornellian* in 1893, Alpha Delt is definitively listed as having been founded on January 1, 1869. The rest, as they say, is history.

For more refreshers on the details of our chapter history, visit our website at www.adphicornell.org/public6.asp. There, you can download the comprehensive history of Alpha Delta Phi at Cornell as told by Marc Zawel '04.

Χαίρε,
Howie Schaffer '90
Alumni President

The Spirit of the House Lives On!

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democratic traditions and humanistic values deeply embedded within its walls and its history.

All of this it did without you really noticing and while you worked hard to achieve the main academic objectives at Cornell. All of this it did as you experienced the many joyous social and fraternal activities and the occasionally less joyous maintenance chores it had planned for you in the company of your brothers.

In its heart, the house knew that this was the unique point in your young life for it to embed a set of moral and ethical codes...indeed, the last opportunity any greater power would have to gift you with a set of life principles designed to strengthen you before you entered the real world: a world of hard work, where failure was not without consequence, and an often cynical and judgmental world, rife with greed, bigotry, and intolerance.

It also embedded a secret and hidden key into your subconscious. One that would *reveal itself and its function* when, finally, many years later and at a time when you are more able to understand its significance, you come together with your brothers at events such as the one to initiate Dino last September or the one earlier this month in Washington D.C.



Sylvain Palmer '74 and
Dino Augerinos '72

This moment, if you are willing to embrace it, is, perhaps, your second initiation into the ultimate significance of the brotherhood. The moment you begin to realize that the Alpha Delta Phi experience was not meant to be limited to our years at Cornell. I sense that this is what happened to us a few weeks ago, and that the '60s-to-'80s generation is about to start a new tradition.

Here's to Friendship!

Χαίρε
Suhail Saad '77



A beautiful
summer
afternoon
at Alpha Delt.

Reunion Weekend 2017



OUTDOOR EDUCATION BRINGS OUT THE BEST IN ΑΔΦ BROTHERS

Making brothers of newly-initiated Alpha Deltas is a continual process. Marc Magnus-Sharpe, Lindseth Director of Cornell Outdoor Education, has been an integral part of helping Alpha Deltas do so over the past few years. With his oversight, dozens of NIBs have endured Adirondack COE excursions designed to encourage team building and personal formation. After a year's hiatus due to scheduling conflicts on Alpha Delt's end, NIBs and other brothers will again venture into the Adirondacks this fall. We recently interviewed Magnus about his work, philosophy, and experiences with (sometimes tenderfoot) Alpha Deltas in the wild.

Q: What got you into outdoor program leadership/guiding, and why is it your vocation?

A: I spent my undergraduate years at William & Mary. One day, I was running through the woods when I heard a voice from up above: "Hey, can you bring me that wrench?" It was my professor, Sylvia Shirley. So I climbed up into the trees and started helping build the first ropes course at the college. Two years later, I came down with a degree, a double major, and enough experience in outdoor education to know this is what I wanted to do. The day I graduated, I loaded up my bicycle and rode cross-country, 3,200 miles in 32 days, and that really locked things in for me and led to my joining Outward Bound as an instructor for the next dozen years.

Q: The Adelpic Fund's board of trustees initiated and funded the Adirondack Team Building and Leadership Development Trip after recognizing that Cornell's curtailment of the period from rush, bidding, and acceptance to initiation eliminated an important time in the pledging process. Can you explain briefly for our members/reader how experiential learning (like the Alpha Delt Adirondack trip) works for developing team building and leadership?

A: Briefly: Impactful education, the kind that truly teaches, deepening an individual's understanding, does so by involving all our senses. This grows neurons and stores the learning so that it can be called upon long after. Experiential learning does just that, not only because it involves all our senses but also because it connects us with others in the process. The ancient Chinese saying goes: "What I hear I forget, what I see I remember, what I do I know." For many reading this article, they will remember the shop class, the labs, and the craftsmanship that was taught alongside the textbook. Those days seem long ago, yet we still teach exactly this way in outdoor education. By passing the skills of campcraft along and immersing students in the outdoor experience, sometimes suffering the elements, and challenging interactions, and at other times marveling at the beauty of nature or the thoughtfulness of another, we lead individuals and groups to a number of teachable moments. These are often most impactful because they fully engage each of us. Adversity draws out true character and sharpens the mind. And, in the words of Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr.: "A mind that is stretched by a new experience can never go back to its old dimensions."

Q: COE's website declares that COE develops teamwork, leadership, and growth by, *inter alia*, "empowering individuals and groups to move beyond self-imposed limitations." What self-imposed limitations have you encountered among Alpha Deltas on the team building and leadership trips? How do you overcome these problems?

A: Looking at the experiences our instructors and I have had interacting with the ΑΔΦ brothers to this point, I would share this about self-imposed limitations. Their experiences have scraped the



Marc Magnus-Sharpe

surface of this concept and, at times, dipped even deeper for a short period on the trail each day. It takes time to shake off comfort and security. After all, they're only away from campus for three days. This is the "limitation" that comes with always having most everything one could want or need within reach. It's a first world problem. But once out of the van and on the trail, most of them are willing, if not pleased, to let that go and replace it with some strenuous effort and honest interactions as the impact of remoteness and wilderness settles in. We want to believe we can handle whatever comes our way, and suddenly we have to prove it...

Another "self-imposed" limitation was very obvious last year [2015]. During debrief, the brothers shared that they felt they had reached a strong level of communication and teamwork. To our COE eyes and experience, we knew there were quite a few gears that they could strive for, but they didn't seem to be able to see it. Since we were in the midst of NCAA March Madness, I was able to use Syracuse and Villanova as prime examples. Syracuse wasn't the same team during the regular season as the one they became after squeaking into the NCAA tourney and eventually making it to the Final Four. And Villanova, making it to the final game to hit a buzzer beater, had to weather a number of ferocious challenges. Sitting there at ΑΔΦ and talking it through, I believe they caught the point that, although Syracuse thought they were a team in the regular season, they had no way of knowing where they were heading. The team that showed up in the tournament had clearly found several more gears and layers to teamwork. In this way, we intend to show them that they have more in them than they think.

Go to AdelpicFund.org for the full interview.

ACEF CO-SPONSORS VETERANS ADVOCATE POSITION ON CAMPUS

Brothers in arms. And sisters, too.

This spring, ACEF pledged \$200,000 to help create a veteran's advocate position at Cornell. The advocate, headquartered in Day Hall and reporting to the Dean of Students, is charged principally with helping veterans adapt to life and to thrive on campus. He or she will serve as a contact upon whom veterans can rely for support, advocacy, programming, and referral. The advocate's duties include connecting veteran students with employers looking to hire them and attracting applicants to Cornell.

The pledge funds the advocate position for a three-year pilot run.

Ryan Lombardi, Cornell's vice president for Student and Campus Life, told the *Cornell*

Chronicle that "the creation of this pilot position will provide critical support for our currently enrolled student veterans, while also signifying Cornell's commitment to enhancing our support for student veterans and helping us attract undergraduate applicants in the future."

Veterans' advocacy informs the heart of the ACEF's (and Alpha Delta Phi's) philanthropy. ACEF President Steven Richey noted, "The members of Alpha Delta Phi Cornell, The Adelpic Fund, and the Alpha Delta Phi International all recognize the unique needs of the veteran community. We bear witness to this through our Cornell-specific veterans project and through the Alpha Delta Phi International's border spanning Brothers in Arms

philanthropic campaign. These are programs with the opportunity for significant impact on an individual, a community, and an international level." Following on the heels of the creation of the veterans advocate position, Cornell has set a goal to increase undergraduate veteran enrollment by over 400 percent.

Two Cornell Alpha Deltas anonymously co-sponsored the advocate position. With those donations and others and the three-year commitment already nearly 75 percent funded, the ACEF will be soliciting donations for the remainder in the coming months. Veterans program donations will also receive Cornell University donor credit through the Office of Alumni Affairs and Development.



VICTORY CLUB

The brothers of Alpha Delta Phi followed suit in tradition by holding the annual Victory Club. Initially created in 1918 to sell war bonds to support the US military in World War I, Victory Club is now a black-tie gala to raise money for local charities of Tompkins County. It also acts as a night of dancing for the entire Cornell community.

This year, Victory Club co-chairmen, Josh Federer '19 and Ethan Nhaisi '19, chose to support the Ithaca Public Education Initiative. This fantastic local organization aims to further the educational experience of every student in the Ithaca City School District by providing community connections and aid through engagement, collaboration, gifts, and grants. IPEI orchestrates annual events to encourage involvement and contributions by local Ithacans, such as an adult spelling bee, which raised over \$26,000 this year for the school district. This year we also had the pleasure of working with Director Steve Manley and IPEI Board Member Mary Grainger.

Additionally, we worked with the History Center in Tompkins County and their executive director, Rod Howe. Food was provided by Serendipity Catering and serious fun was had by all. Alpha Delta Phi was fortunate enough to raise over \$10,000 dollars for the cause.

SENIOR DESTINATIONS: A LOOK AT WHAT'S NEXT

Ryan Picard will be moving to the Seattle, Washington, to pursue his interest in technology development, working at Microsoft.

Jarro Yuzon will be entering the Marriott development program in Washington, D.C.

Sam Selinger will be moving back home to New York City to work at Bank of America Merrill Lynch in their leveraged finance group.

Joe Jahnecke will be working in New York at Accenture in their technology consulting group.

Kevin Nielsen will be taking his talents to the West Coast to work in San Francisco at Oracle on their business development and consulting team.

Jeff Plamondon will be moving to Atlanta, Georgia, to work in the growing real estate private-equity market.

Jacques Sisteron is lucky to be spending another year at Cornell to pursue his Master's of Engineering in materials science and engineering. This summer he will be working on the M&A team for Tesla in San Francisco.

Sam McGarvey will be moving to New York City to be a first-year analyst in real estate debt.

John Milani will be moving to Lexington, Virginia, to pursue his law degree at the Washington & Lee School of Law.

Sam Weidenkopf will be moving to New York City to work in human resources consulting at Accenture.

Oliver Rosen will be returning home to New York City to work at J.P. Morgan in their mergers and acquisitions group.

JOIN US IN WELCOMING ALPHA DELTA PHI'S NEWEST BROTHERS

Jack Logan Delaney '20 was born in London, United Kingdom, and grew up in New York, New York. He attended Trinity School through eighth grade and transferred to Riverdale Country School. He is now in his freshman year in the School of Industrial and Labor Relations. Jack holds a passion for music, playing guitar as well as the piano. He has worked extensively with the United Nations Foundation's Nothing But Nets Campaign and has been credited for his work by former National Security Advisor Susan Rice.

Spencer Andrew Goldsmith '20 is majoring in economics in the College of Arts and Sciences and aspires to work in real estate upon graduation from Cornell. Spencer chose the Alpha Delta Phi Fraternity because he felt like it was the best fit for his personality, and he developed friendships with various brothers. Spencer enjoys playing basketball, tennis, and lifting weights in his free time.

Norman Yanchao Chen '19 is from Smithtown, New York, and attended Smithtown High School West. He majors in electrical and computer engineering in the College of Engineering and hopes to work in the semiconductor industry. Norman chose Alpha Delta Phi because of its strong brotherhood and commitment to tradition.

Luca Stefano Raspi '19 is from Beverly Hills, California, and attended Loyola High School. He is in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and is currently pursuing a major in applied economics and management, with a dual concentration in finance and accounting. He is also considering going to law school. In his free time, Luca enjoys skiing at Greek Peak. He is a part of the Cornell club ski team and trains at Greek Peak with his fellow teammates.

Lorenzo Masias Uranga '20 graduated in May 2016 from the Colegio Franklin D. Roosevelt in Lima, Peru. He was born and raised in the Peruvian capital, where he played polo and surfed on a regular basis. Lorenzo's main passion in life revolves around polo, and he is currently part of Peru's national team and Cornell's varsity team. He is projected to graduate in 2020 from the School of Hotel Administration.

Kais Pierre Baillargeon '20 received his high-school diploma at St. Paul's School in London, United Kingdom, where he grew up.

He is in the College of Engineering, majoring in operations research and information engineering. On campus, he is a member of the Cornell Consulting Club and also enjoys skiing, soccer, design, and travel. He hopes to begin his professional career in an entrepreneurial start-up environment, which would ideally relate to either transportation or smart city technology.

Griffin Cole Bader '20 is from New York, New York, where he attended the Riverdale Country School in the Bronx. He is currently undecided on his major in the College of Arts and Sciences but is interested in American studies, English, music, history, and government. In addition to his studies and his involvement in Greek life, Griffin is a linebacker/defensive back on Cornell's sprint football team and has participated on Cornell's Concert Commission. Following his graduation, Griffin hopes to pursue a career in music, forging his own path in an industry that he adores.

Griffin Mark Maduzia '20 was born in Los Angeles, California. He attended Windward School and will graduate with a major in performing and media arts. He plans on traveling the world after school, eventually settling in Los Angeles to work in the film industry. He is an avid sports fan and athlete and loves to play and watch soccer, football, and basketball. He was also very involved in community service in high school and hopes to continue that same trend within the Ithaca community during his time at Cornell.

Leon Kiwoong Cho '19 was born in Seoul, Korea. He went to MyungDuk Foreign Language High School. He is studying in the School of Hotel Administration, expecting to graduate in 2019. He plans on working in the healthcare industry. He is a member of Alamiskan, an African rhythm ensemble in Korea.

Gregory Lawrence Najarian '20 is from Basking Ridge, New Jersey, and attended the Pingry School. He is in the School of Hotel Administration and is interested in studying real estate, finance, and information science. In the future, he would like to start his own real estate firm. Greg is an elected member of the Manager in Training Program for HEC weekend and a member of the Cornell Real Estate Club.

Charles J. Davis '19 is originally from

New York, New York, and attended Riverdale Country School. He is in the College of Arts and Science and anticipates graduating with a dual-degree in mathematics and computer science. He hopes to pursue a graduate degree in either cybersecurity or artificial intelligence. The extracurricular activity he is most passionate about is the website he created in 2014 and currently operates: quadzy.com.

Joseph Benjamin Ferrara '20 is from Staten Island, New York. He attended Poly Prep Country Day School and is in the School of Hotel Administration, with a concentration in food and beverage and a minor in real estate. In the future, he plans to create a restaurant group focused in New York City that specializes in the cuisines of the various regions of Italy. His interests include cooking and working with special-needs adults and children.

Tomaso Edoardo Rock '19 is in the School of Industrial and Labor Relations. He is from New York City and attended Columbia Preparatory School for ninth grade, spent a year abroad in Naples, Italy, for 10th grade, and returned to spend his last two years of high school at Loyola School. He is currently minoring in both real estate and film. In his free time, he enjoys following soccer, playing soccer for the Cornell club team Mundial, and watching films.

Henry Dene Sall '20 wants to work in real estate, finance, or possibly the garment industry. He is really looking forward to taking real-estate classes and learning more about the industry, which is why he chose to study in the School of Hotel Administration. He is also part of a non-profit called CitySquash, in which he is active when he has free time at home. The organization helps inner-city kids get significant help in SAT prep, squash training, reading, etc.

Jakob Anker Stordalen '20 was born in Oslo, Norway. He graduated from Stowe School in Buckingham, England. He is currently pursuing a major in hotel administration. Jakob wants to be able to go into his father's business back in Scandinavia. He wishes to combine his passion for hotel management with sustainable food development—and sustainable operations in general—and work to adopt such measures in all the different hotels.



Passing the Torch

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

experience also taught me that, as a leader, when a challenge arises, there is no option but to act and to rise to meet it. Failure is not merely a personal loss but an existential threat to your peers, friends, and colleagues. But moving forward, I cannot articulate forcefully enough the need for ongoing vigilance in house leadership. We must continue to act responsibly and to forge an enduring culture of positivity, cooperation, and accountability. While I will remain involved in the chapter in an informal advisory capacity as I earn my Master of Engineering next year, it is time to pass the torch to the next generation of young leaders. I have the utmost confidence in the chapter going forward and wish them the best of luck.

Jacques Sisteron '17
President, Spring 2017



Junior Week, 1948



Fall House Party, 1950



According to Jerry Tyler '67, there were three fire helmets, so when the drivers stood as a trio, they enumerated "777." He is donating this awesome relic of the fire-engine era to the house. Snap. Snap.

ALPHA DELT: SPORTS POWERHOUSE?

Alpha Delta Phi has proudly housed many NCAA champion athletes and has won more than a handful of intramural trophies. Yet Alpha Delt's campus reputation is usually not directly connected to our athletic achievements. The June 16, 1939 issue of *The Cornell Daily Sun* reports that Alpha Delta Phi was awarded the golf trophy at the annual dinner of the Intramural Athletic Association. Since 1939, our memory has become spotty. If you know of an amazing Alpha Delt athlete, let us know. *If you were part of a winning intramural team, let us know.* In an upcoming newsletter, we will publish a list of our jocks and contenders. Send your missives and sports recollections to Bailey Rogg '13 at [REDACTED]. And, yes...croquet is a sport.

NEWS FROM OUR ALUMNI

After reading the latest *A Brother's Story* publication, Raymond Tuttle '48 expresses his appreciation: "Words don't adequately express how much I appreciate the *A Brother's Story* mailings that you made possible! A wonderful idea! Of course for me, being a fellow chemical engineer, the one about Julian Smith '41 struck home. He finished his BChemE in the spring of 1941, and I did not start at Cornell until the fall of 1941. With time out for WW II, I did not finish my five years until June of 1948, and Julian had not returned as professor at Cornell by then, so our paths did not cross then either. But his descriptions of many classes in chemistry, calculus, physics, technical German, and Saturday 'labs' were spot on to my memories as well. And we both were taught the

unforgettable Unit Operations (710) by Dusty Rhodes, with his page after page of handwritten corrections of the weekly reports by each of us. And I, like Julian, did pretty well, finishing second in a class of 39 BChemE graduates in 1948. Equally special, I did get to know Julian at the ChemE get-togethers at various reunions: first when he was still teaching and then as a retired professor living at Kendall. A very unassuming, friendly person. And then just a few years ago, I discovered a new-to-me talent of Julian when he stole the show with an individual comedy/singing act at the choir program at Bailey Hall. He stirred a lot of memories with his descriptions of life at AΔΦ in the early post-war, but in that area, I don't believe I can mention anything new

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NEWS FROM OUR ALUMNI

(CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE)

to you, So... Excuse me for rattling on. Thank you!" Drop Ray a note to say hello: [REDACTED].

Gordon Anderson '58 writes in: "I saw Cal Carr '59, Dan Hall '59, Mal Johnston '58, Bob Bryant '58, Jim Hunt '59, Dave Brown '58, Terry West '58, and Don Marshall '59 at the annual Alpha Delt New England croquet bash, wonderfully hosted by Ginger and Cal Carr. Jack Shillingford, a non-Cornell non-Alpha Delt participant for many years and colleague of Mel, was also there. Lots of spouses and partners were also present. Great time. Mel Johnson won without too much cheating, though there was much discussion of the rules. Also saw Don Marshall '59 and Dale Marshall, Judy and Jim Edgar '58, Louise and John Brinsley '58, Marsh Shambarger '57 and wife, and Chuck Feledy '57 and wife in Berkeley for Don's 80th birthday celebration, wonderfully hosted by Dale and Don. My partner, Sharron Kaplan, also joined us at Don's celebration." Write to Gordon and see if you can meet up with him for some stories: [REDACTED].

John Mackie III '66 and his wife, Joy, attended John's 50th Reunion in June 2016: "Was pleased to see the following brothers all looking good: Dick Aubrecht '66, Doug Bond '67, Jim Fearnside '66, Mike Kinney '66, Jay Pearce '66, and Ross Trimby '66. I stay active with the Cornell Alumni Association of Greater Houston (AAAGH). We have activities almost every month, participate in high-school recruitment, and sponsor an endowed scholarship for undergraduates from Houston. Contacts: [REDACTED]"

Gary Wolfe '71 writes: "Receiving the booklet that Tom Reilly '07 edited about our brother from Montreal and his experiences at Cornell enhanced in me the feeling of the tradition that binds each of the classes together over the years. The booklet's description of the initiation could have been written in the early 1970s,

when I was initiated (minus the being dropped somewhere for an hour), or when my son was initiated in the 2000s. I still remember by heart the "Greek Song" that the author of the booklet had to learn overnight. Why is that? Continuity is important. I wish you the best and thank you for the tremendous efforts you have made on the Phi's behalf over the years. Χαίρε." Reconnect with Gary at [REDACTED].

"Hello, dear brothers," writes Jean Pierre Willet '73. "I am still alive, a father of three, and a grandfather of five. Still living in France. My address is [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]. I am sure to make a trip in the next few years to Cornell."

Michael J. Zak '75 sends in his compliments on the last issue: "I tossed the recent *Cornell Alpha Delt* into my briefcase to read while sitting in one of the many planes, trains, and waiting rooms I get stuck in, and I have just read it. This was, without exception, the best one of these I have ever read, including a few I put together myself when I was an active and drew the short straw as the editor-publisher. I'm sure this was a 'black swan' sort of moment and that such a great combination of active and alumni news rarely presents itself, but to whomever put this together, a round of clicks. The prospects of Brother Julian Smith's memoirs being published are wonderful. I hope it comes to pass." Keep in contact with Mike at [REDACTED].

Tom Rothfels '77 is still traveling quite a bit for business, and he and his wife, Karen, spend at least a month in Europe each year. In October and November, they will be heading to St. Tropez, France. Tom still races in triathlons, and while in the Netherlands this September, he will be racing in the World Triathlon Grand Final in Rotterdam. Get in touch with Tom for all the details: [REDACTED].

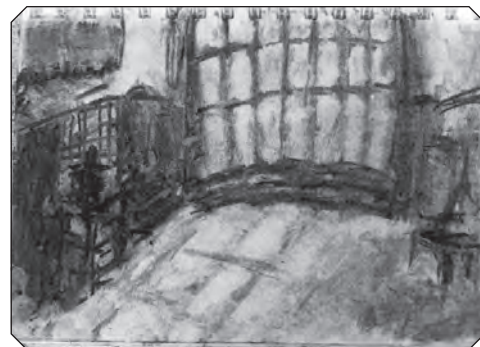
After a nice career exclusively in the hotel industry as a manager, appraiser, real-estate broker, and investor, Lysle Waterman '81 retired at the end of 2015. Over the past year and a half, he keeps himself busy with landscaping projects around his home in Novato, California ("beautiful Marin County"). "I have more time for fishing at Lake Sonoma, as well as the sights of the Bay Area and the sounds of Phil Tesh & Friends at his Terrapin Crossroads nearby in San Rafael. My wife and I are looking forward to more travel next year, starting with a tour of Asia. Please

say hello if you're in the San Francisco Bay Area!" Get in touch and plan a visit to Lysle: [REDACTED].

"Got back from five years in Shanghai, China," writes Dave Givens '82. "Moved to D.C., aired out all our personal belongings that were in storage for seven years, got an offer for Hawaii, moved all of our stuff back into storage, and now live on the Big Island. Very nice!" Dave is now living at [REDACTED]. You can reach him at [REDACTED].

Mark Keiser '96 left Starwood (now Marriott) almost two years ago and now works for Starwood Capital, overseeing development of two new brands: 1 Hotels and Bacarat Hotels. Get in touch with him to find out all the details: [REDACTED].

Aaron Sweeney '01 writes: "Dear ΑΔΦ: I made this drawing the other day in my art studio and wanted to share it with the house. The drawing was inspired by a conflagration of events; a



friend of a friend just recently died of a sudden heart attack in his late 30s, and a month ago, I had a tremendous turnout by ΑΔΦ alumni at my wedding in NYC. Both situations have underscored the closeness and the lifetime of camaraderie that deep friendship can bring and the importance of constantly fostering these relationships. Χαίρε!" Aaron resides at [REDACTED].



Brothers gather in New York City for Aaron Sweeney's ('01) wedding.

ALPHA DELT BROTHERS ...

Share your thoughts, opinions, and memories of Alpha Delt in the newsletter. Send them to Howie Schaffer '90 by email at [REDACTED]

Erbin Dunbar Wattles '37 passed away at age 95 on September 14, 2010, in Grosse Pointe Woods. Born on December 1, 1914, in Buffalo, New York, to Lucilla and Raymond Wattles, he attended Cornell University and earned a degree in engineering in 1937. While at Cornell, he was captain of the varsity hockey team and a member of Alpha Delta Phi Fraternity. After graduation, Mr. Wattles joined Dunbar and Sullivan Dredging Company, a family firm established in 1844, and spent his entire working career at the firm, becoming the president and chief executive officer. He served with distinction during World War II. Major Wattles was an ordnance officer and a battalion commander with the 4th Armored Division. His decorations included the Legion of Merit, two Purple Hearts, and a Bronze Star with oak leaf cluster. He loved ballroom dancing and gardening. As an avid horseman, he enjoyed riding and fox hunting. He was a past president of the Grosse Pointe Hunt Club and enjoyed managing many of the club's horse shows. He was president of the Propeller Club of Detroit and honored by its members as the "mayor of the Detroit waterfront" for his efforts to promote understanding and use of the waterfront.

William C. Arthur Jr. '44 passed away at age 95 on February 25, 2017, at the RiverMead retirement community. Bill was born on December 18, 1921, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, a son of William C. Arthur and Sara M. Warrick. He attended Culver Military Academy for five years, where he rowed on the crew. He graduated as a 1st lieutenant in the field artillery. In 1941, half a year into his sophomore year at Cornell University, war was declared against Japan (Pearl Harbor). In 1943, he was shipped overseas (WWII) and became senior aide to General Robert W. Hasbrouk, commander of the 7th Armored Division. As an Army captain, he fought in the Battle of the Bulge and was awarded the Bronze Star. He returned home in 1945. Bill married Ann Bailey Draper of Canton, Massachusetts, on July 7, 1946. With Ann, he returned to Cornell to graduate in 1948 as an administrative mechanical engineer. They lived in Worcester, Massachusetts, for 32 years, where Bill worked for the Norton Company for eight years, and then as president of his own wire brush company, Anderson Corp. Bill became involved in many community affairs: chairman of the board at Memorial Hospital, chairman of United Way, director of Mechanics Bank, on the boards of Friendly House, Boys Trade School, and the Associated Industries of MA, and president of the American Brush Association. Meantime he became interested in boating, bought a Hatteras, and spent his vacations taking his family from Falmouth, Massachusetts, to Maine. Upon

retirement in 1980, he and Ann built a home on family property in Jaffrey. They joined the First Church, where he was moderator and chair of the finance committee. He was a fundraiser for the Jaffrey ambulance crew, member of the Jaffrey Chamber of Commerce, helped establish the WWII memorial at Humiston Field, and was named Citizen of the Year.

William A. Finger '49 was born on October 21, 1927, and passed away on May 9, 2014. Bill was a graduate of Cornell University and Marquette University School of Medicine. He worked as a radiologist at Milwaukee County General Hospital and at Froedtert Memorial Hospital as an employee of the Medical College of Wisconsin. Bill donated his body to the Medical College of Wisconsin so that others might learn.

On March 6, 2017, **Donald L. Berg '54** died unexpectedly in Chapel Hill, where he had lived for 22 years. He was born in Chicago Illinois, on August 16, 1932. Don leaves a long legacy of service and love to thousands of people in many countries—he always had a special love for his family. Don began his life of service as the president of his high-school class and attended Cornell University on a scholarship, where he graduated with a degree in mechanical engineering. He was employed by Borg Warner for 35 years and, after several years of work in the U.S., became general manager for their European facilities and a VP and general manager in Canada. After retirement, his days were filled as a nuclear mechanical consultant for five years. Living and working throughout the world gave him a great appreciation for various cultures. After his first wife died, he dedicated his life to serving others in various countries. His first trip was to Guatemala, where he helped build a medical clinic. He then took two summer trips to Peru, building a translation center, and went to Australia one summer with his two daughters, Lisa and Kimberly, where they renovated a building for Wycliffe Bible Translators. He spent seven summers in India building duplexes for lepers and their families, dramatically changing their lives. At University United Methodist Church in Chapel Hill, Don started a mission program to Panama. He led teams for seven years to build a community center/school/church in an impoverished area of the country. His strong Christian faith helped him accept his many losses in life and gave him a great passion to serve others who were going through hardships or a crisis in their life. He served faithfully with Stephen Ministries for 22 years. Don had a zest for life and a joy that "overflowed," in addition to having a very dry wit and infectious laugh. He loved showing his basset hounds and miniature wire-haired dachshunds throughout

Europe and loved nature, especially bird watching. His green thumb always provided a lush garden for his and Ginny's homes.

Clyde Davis III '55 of Dallas passed away at the age of 83 on July 28, 2016, at the Celtic Hospice Inpatient Unit at Geisinger South Wilkes-Barre. Born in Wilkes-Barre, he was the son of the late Clyde Davis II and Orceil Davis. Skip was a graduate of the Hill School in Pottsville and earned a bachelor's degree from Cornell University. He was a first lieutenant in the 109th Field Artillery Division of the U.S. Army and was a reservist in the Pennsylvania National Guard, serving from 1955 until 1962. As a heating/ventilation/air conditioning equipment manufacturer's sales representative, Skip had been a regional manager for Singer Co. and worked as the United States representative of Stiebel Eltron of Germany.

John Samuel Mazella '55 of Mt. Kisco, New York, was born on March 25, 1933, and he died on September 17, 2016. Dr. Mazella earned his BA at Cornell University and his MD from Weill Cornell Medical College of Cornell University in 1959. He also served as captain in the US Air Force and received an honorable discharge in 1972. While in the Air Force, he met his English wife, Patricia, in Paris. They were married in London and moved to New York City. He did his orthopedic residency at Bellvue Hospital, New York. The couple had two children, Francesca and Jonathan. He moved his family to Westchester and began practicing Orthopedic Surgery in Mt. Kisco, where he worked and resided for over 43 years. He served as chief of orthopedic surgery at Northern Westchester Hospital from 1983–1988. He continued to work in private practice until 2015. Dr. Mazella was a loving family man who took a keen interest in his children's sports. He had great love and compassion for dogs, cats, horses, and all animals. His hobbies included fly-fishing, wine collecting, and later golf. He had a good eye for art and enjoyed visiting galleries throughout the world. He enjoyed spending time with his patients, never wanting them to feel hurried. He knew he wanted to be a doctor from a very young age and loved his career to the end. He came from a loving family of Italian descent in New Jersey and was always grateful for a solid upbringing.

Gilbert Fraser Rankin Jr. '55 passed away on November 8, 2016 (tribute to follow in our next newsletter).

Charles R. Yoh '57 passed away on November 2, 2016.

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Daniel W. Holmes Jr. '60 was a man who lived life with honor and integrity. He was born in Cleveland on June 24, 1938, and died peacefully at home on January 5, 2016, at the age of 77 after battling ALS (Lou Gehrig's disease) with grace and humor for many years. Dan graduated from Shaker Heights High School in 1956, lettering in football and wrestling. He attended Cornell and New York universities and received an MBA from NYU Stern School of Business and a business degree from Harvard. Dan also served in the U.S. Army. Throughout his life, Dan valued energy, ethics, and intelligence. He was the former chairman and CEO of Morrison Products, a Cleveland-based manufacturer of fans and blowers for the HVAC industry, serving as chairman of industry trade associations GAMA and ARI and as chairman emeritus of the Rees Scholarship Foundation. Dan also served as an advisor to Presidents Bush and Obama as a member of the Manufacturing Council. Additionally, Dan was president of the Harvard Business School Club of Northeast Ohio and a club trustee emeritus. He was a member of the Union Club. In his spare time, Dan loved travelling around the world, scuba diving with his family and collecting early-American copper pennies. Dan served as chairman of the EAC and as a board member of the American Numismatic Society.

Richard E. Spencer '63 passed away on April 14, 2016.

Carl Demler '66, owner of Beethoven Pianos and The Concert Space in New York City, died on October 19, 2015. He was 79. He was a beloved father, a gentle friend, and a well-respected man of pianos.



Carl Demler '66 standing next to the outstanding Grotrian-Steinweg parlour grand formerly owned by Imelda Marcos

James A. Hall III '67 died peacefully at age 64 after a stroke on March 7, 2011. Jim was born on August 9, 1946, in Passaic, New Jersey. He

graduated from Notre Dame High School in Elmira, New York, in 1963, then attended Cornell University and Loyola College in Baltimore, Maryland, where he obtained his Bachelor of Science in mathematics with high honors. Jim was an avid outdoorsman, political activist, and lover of music. His passions led him around the world, promoting social change and random acts of kindness, accompanied by his beloved wife, Francine. Their enthusiasm for outdoor activities and their desire to bring joy to the lives of others combined to inspire a bike trip across the country, helping those in need. The success of this venture led to similar campaigns across Europe. The honesty, integrity, and dry sense of wit displayed in Jim's philanthropic endeavors also led to a remarkably successful career as a professional actuary. Jim joined the Fellow of the Casualty Actuarial Society as its youngest member in 1973. He later became a founder of Coopers and Lybrand Actuarial Group, Hallmark Actuarial Consulting, and International Actuarial Services. He was well known and respected within insurance circles, as an expert witness, and by his appearances at many actuarial and insurance conferences. When not traveling with Francine to enact change or working on his successful actuarial career, Jim could be found singing with Gregorian Schola Choir; his love of music was deeply instilled at an early age by his musical brothers. His faith was also a defining characteristic of his life, and he was proud to serve as a lector at St. John Vianney Catholic Church in South Burlington. His constant efforts to increase the peace and love in a tumultuous world earned him the nickname "Gentle Giant."

Newman T. Guthrie '69 passed away on April 5, 2016.

FRIENDS OF DICK PONTE '69 GATHER TO HONOR HIS MEMORY



Friends of Dick Ponte '69

Toasts and tributes were offered to the memory of Dick Ponte '69 whose unexpected passing has saddened those who knew and loved him. Jim McCormick '69 gathered a small group at Sparks Steak House in NYC on May 24, 2017, to raise a glass to a great adventurer, a raconteur, and a good friend. Those attending

included: Phil Reilly '69, Earl (Rob) Roberts '69, Peter Kendall '68, Roy Sinclair '65, Knight Kiplinger '69, and Howie Schaffer '90.

A REMEMBRANCE
OF **RICHARD PONTE '69**
BY **PHILIP REILLY '69**:

I first met Dick in the fall of 1965, and I last communicated with him (by email, alas) in December of 2013. In May, I had the honor (thanks to Jim McCormick '69) of joining with other Alpha Deltas to remember him at Spark's, a fine steak house in Manhattan. It was a fit dinner; Dick loved fine conversation with great friends in a sumptuous setting. Our friendship spanned 48 years. I do not recall exactly when we met, but my memory of Dick at that moment is astonishingly clear. I was a quite inexperienced 18-year-old kid from a small town in Massachusetts who had not yet been on an airplane. He was a charming, well-spoken, polyglot young man from Brazil. Through the mists of memory, I see him now: high forehead, dark brown hair, deep, liquid brown eyes, a satiric smile, tieless but wearing a sport coat and a white shirt, elegantly smoking a cigarette, regarding me in a bemused manner. He reminded me a bit of Peter Lorre. Dick was witty and laughed a lot. Compared to me, who spent much of my time worried I would flunk physics 207 (why in the world was I taking that course?), Dick seemed supremely indifferent to the challenges of the classroom. He must have studied, but I have no clear memory of observing that. He much preferred confronting the great questions and taking his comrades along with him as he did so. We had a budding friendship before the pledge season started. One of my deepest, most poignant memories from my first year at Cornell is inextricably tied to Dick. One afternoon he came to my room, shut the door and sat on the bed. "I have just learned that my mother has died," he said. I was stunned and had no idea what to do or say, so I listened. His father had told him not to return to Brazil for a funeral, and he was not going to go. There were no tears. Dick spoke for a while about his mother, and then departed. I had not yet had any major disaster in my life. I remember feeling deeply afraid at the suddenness with which the world can intrude. One of my last moments at Cornell (just a day or so before graduation) also is tied to Dick. I was feeling pretty nostalgic



Dick Ponte '69 sports a cast, covering a broken wrist from a Porsche driving lesson that included a ditch and a mailbox

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about leaving the magic world of Ithaca (it was the sixties!) and quite scared about the future (particularly the draft). Dick would have none of it. On a lovely June afternoon, he insisted I join him in his red convertible to spend an hour racing around Tompkins County. I did not share much time with Dick



over the next four decades. When I saw him, it was usually briefly: for a drink or dinner in Manhattan. I had a vague sense that his life had had its ups and downs, some of them pretty low. But, whenever I saw Dick, he seemed to morph into that fun-loving, highly social, satirical friend from Alpha Delt in the late sixties. He did like to recall the parties. We had some *great* parties. I remember one snowy night when he and I and perhaps five other men and women drove standing up in a big convertible from the Heights to the Phi (please do not repeat this behavior). The last time I saw Dick alone (perhaps 2010), I spent the evening listening to him talk about cosmology. Since that year, all the communications were by email. I still have some of them. One string involves his efforts to keep a large group of us updated on the medical struggles of fellow Alpha Delt, Alex Mizne '68, also a Brazilian and a dear friend to Dick. The other string of emails (mostly from 2012) is a chain of acerbic, witty thoughts about the general decline of American intellectual life. The longest I have is a diatribe based on his reactions to data providing strong evidence that the Ivy League had a tacit admissions limit of 16 percent for Asian students. Dick was a great believer in meritocracy. I first learned of Dick's death when Jim McCormick sent me an email. At that precise moment, I was in upstate New York with my wife and daughter, Sarah (Cornell '09) at a heart-breaking funeral for her college roommate. How odd it seems to have learned of the death of my friend, roommate, and fellow fraternity brother while sharing my daughter's loss of her dear friend. Dick is giving much of what he amassed in life to Cornell. Dick had a


scintillating intellect, a deeply generous heart, and a defiant humor, which he mustered to do battle with the dragons that haunted him, as they do all of us.

A REMEMBRANCE OF RICHARD PONTE '69
BY EARL ROBERTS '69: One of the not so pleasant things about aging is the loss of a friend. Fifty years ago, I moved into one of the third-floor suites at the Phi. My suite mates were Dick Ponte and Jim McCormick. To me, Dick was one of those brothers who made Alpha Delt a special and unique place. A native of Brazil, Dick spoke three languages fluently and had a zest for life that I had not experienced before. Shortly after the school year began, Dick brought a little bit of Brazil into our suite. In the center of the suite, he installed a fish tank, where a silver-dollar-sized piranha took up residence. For reasons unknown, Dick named the fish Adolph. During the next several months, feeding goldfish to Adolph was a source of entertainment for many of our Alpha Delt brothers. Adolph apparently enjoyed the food and the attention and quickly grew to about six inches in length. Adolph could eat a small goldfish in a single bite and was of such a size and aggressiveness that most people would think twice about getting their hand near the surface of the tank. Unfortunately, Adolph's celebrity was short lived. I awoke one Sunday morning after a party weekend to find Adolph floating on the surface of the tank. It seems that, during the preceding Saturday-night party, an intoxicated brother chose to share his drink with Adolph. As I recall, the alcohol poisoning of Adolph was a brief topic of conversation around the house. Dick quickly replaced him with a less vulnerable boa constrictor. Dick was a talented and unique person whose friendship was an unforgettable part of my Alpha Delt experience.

John Michael Gray '71 of Provincetown died at the age of 66 on September 24, 2016, at Seashore Point Wellness and Rehabilitation Center in Provincetown after a short illness. He was the 32-year life partner of Timothy J. O'Connor. Together since 1984, they were married in 2004, when it became legal in Massachusetts. Born in Nashua, New Hampshire, he was the son of the late Vernon and Phyllis (Duff) Gray. After graduating from Lawrence Academy in Groton, Massachusetts, he received his BFA from Cornell University, a Master's in Education degree from Tufts University, and his Doctorate in Curriculum and Supervision from Boston University. John Michael started his career as a fine-arts consultant for the New Hampshire Department of Education, working with school districts state-wide on arts-education programming.

He then became fine arts coordinator for the Newton Public Schools, retiring in 2008. During this time, he also managed a visual-arts and writing awards program for Massachusetts students. The program was affiliated with a national program conducted by the Alliance for Young Artists & Writers, for which he also served as a member of the board of directors. He also was program co-director of the *Boston Globe's* Scholastic Art & Writing Awards. Over the years, he received many awards and honors, among them the 2009 Kennedy Center Excellence in School Administration Award, the National Art Education Association's 2000 Educator of the Year, and the New Hampshire State Art Educator Award in 1983, to name but a few. He also worked with many professional boards and organizations. In 2011, John Michael, after almost 40 years in the field of art education, was honored as Massachusetts Art Educator of the Year. One of his greatest achievements, however, he shared with his partner Tim. The duo was known as the "hat sisters." The idea started in 1984 as John Michael was preparing for the second Provincetown Carnival celebration. He made costumes for himself and Tim, which included identical dresses and huge hats. The popularity of that effort mushroomed into a significant number of charitable events over the last 32 years, raising significant amounts of money for a variety of causes and cementing friendships all over the world.





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