

# The Cornell Alpha Delt



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*Fall 2006*

## Recruitment In A Changing Fraternity Landscape

**A**t the risk of sounding hopelessly clichéd, I offer you the idea of rush as both a science and an art. I will come back to this idea later, but first, allow me to paint a picture of the changing fraternity landscape as I see it.

Despite its official position regarding Greek life, recent developments, such as the West Campus Initiative and an undeniably tightening approach to regulation, suggest a continuing anti-fraternity stance at some levels of this university administration. A troubling precedent was set (following the 1997 death of a Phi Gamma Delta pledge at MIT) when MIT admitted responsibility for the tragedy and agreed to a \$6-million settlement; this has changed the legal landscape for all universities. I'm concerned that Cornell has responded to this new level

of financial risk by launching a thinly-veiled war on fraternity life as we know it. Does Cornell aim to thin its herd of fraternities by offering and promoting new alternative housing projects and pursuing incrementally higher influence over the remaining houses?

It is against the backdrop of this potentially bleak scenario that I express my optimism for the future of the Alpha Delta Phi at Cornell. Oftentimes, when the weakest members all culled from a herd, it leaves the strong to survive and flourish. It is, therefore, our responsibility to ensure that the future crop of men entering our ranks will enable us to flourish, rather than falter.

I am pleased to report that the potential crop of new members we  
*(continued on page nine)*



*The most recent pledge class entertains the Parent's Weekend visitors with a rousing rendition of "Come Troll a Stave."*

## Ezra Cornell's Family Connection To Alpha Delta Phi

**A** few alumni brothers have asked if the Alpha Delta Phi at Cornell University has any members who are blood relatives of our university namesake and founder, Ezra Cornell.

The story of the life of Ezra Cornell (1807-1874) is familiar to all of us. We all know of his humble beginnings, his frontier spirit, his enterprise, and his industrious work ethic. We know of his riches gained from his connection to Samuel F.B. Morse, the early days spent inventing new ways of laying telegraph cable, and the riches he gained from his financial interests in the Western Union Telegraph Company. And, of course, we are all the beneficiaries of his philanthropic vision to "...found an institution where any person can find instruction in any study."

The story of Ezra Cornell is told in all its richness and detail on the Cornell University archive website found at: <http://historical.library.cornell.edu/ezra/>.

The elegant mansion known as Llenroc ("Cornell" spelled backwards) is the last existing building associated

*(continued on page four)*



## Update On Academic Rankings

**N**ew fraternity grade rankings have been published by the Cornell Office of the Dean of Students. In the spring 2006 semester, the Phi ranked 22nd of 43 fraternities. Our cumulative GPA was 3.166. Those grades were an improvement over the fall 2005 grades, where we ranked 30th with a 3.129 GPA. Fall grades tend to be higher than spring grades so the alumni cheer the collective ability of active brothers to reverse the trend curve. The differences between houses is slight. If the Phi can push their averaged grades above 3.2—just a small amount of extra effort—then the Phi will be in the top third of all houses on campus. The alumni do not expect active brothers to be #1. We do expect that the Phi will be in the top third. Active brothers are to be congratulated for beating the Cornell All Men's Average (supposedly a closely held secret, but reportedly around 3.15).

In 2005-2006, Alpha Delta Phi ranked #7 out of 69 national fraternities academically. Jon Vick, HAM '64, president of the International, continues to emphasize that high academic rankings are advantageous for every chapter. The fact that the Phi boasts more than 12 brothers on the Dean's List is an indication of a growing culture of academic seriousness in the Phi, a development applauded by the entire alumni board. Each semester, the Adelpheic Cornell Educational Fund (ACEF) makes \$500 academic awards to brothers who live in the Phi and are named to the Dean's List. The partnership of the ACEF in recognizing scholastic achievement is greatly valued.

For more info on this important program see [www.adphicornell.org](http://www.adphicornell.org).

Howie Schaffer '90



**Officers & Directors  
Alpha Delta Phi at  
Cornell, Inc.**

**Chairman**

Kenneth E. Growney '82  
kgrowney@metlife.com

**President**

Howard B. Schaffer '90  
hbschaffer@aol.com

**Vice President**

John R. Tuttle '81  
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**Recording Secretary**

Rudy Koch '00  
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**Corresponding Secretary**

W. Douglas Bond '66  
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**Directors Emeriti:**

Richard W. Wambach '53  
John S. Dyson '65  
George M. Kennedy '52

**Retiring October 2009**

Philip C. Ballard '00  
Kenneth E. Growney '82  
Jim McCormick '69  
Thomas M. Rothfels '77  
Richard Seestedt '86  
John R. Tuttle '81

**Retiring October 2008**

W. Douglas Bond '66  
Michael R. Elliott '87  
Rudy Koch '00  
Philip R. Reilly '69  
Howard B. Schaffer '90  
Joseph Tucceri Jr. '00

**Retiring October 2007**

Ryan Colbert '05  
A. John Golder III '83  
Peter M.R. Kendall '68  
Daniel C. Sweeney '97



*The 174th Annual Convention of the Alpha Delta Phi was held on August 10-12, 2006 in Boston, Massachusetts. The Cornell Chapter received two awards, The Andrew Onderdonk Award for Best Alumni Organization and the Most Outstanding Chapter Newsletter Award. Receiving these awards, with great pride, on behalf of the chapter are, left to right, Ken Growney '82, Doug Bond '66, Jamil Karmali '08, and Phil Ballard '00.*

**Winter-Spring 2006-2007 Undergraduate Officers**

<b>President</b> .....Caleb Schwarzbach '08 chs27@cornell.edu 610-216-9781	<b>Assistant Steward</b> .....Greg Wolfe '08 gnw3@cornell.edu 917-282-9481
<b>Vice President</b> .....Mark Jennings '08 mwj5@cornell.edu 607-426-8112	<b>Assistant Rush</b> .....Eric Weinstein '09 elw35@cornell.edu 631-827-4840
<b>Treasurer</b> .....Pat Kavanagh '07 pgk7@cornell.edu 607-592-4621	<b>Asst. House Manager</b> .....Gerald Yeung '08 gcy4@cornell.edu 201-403-6437
<b>Social Chair</b> .....Nick DiNorscio '08 njd34@cornell.edu 201-317-5271	<b>Alumni Relations</b> .....Kevin Barmish '07 barmish@cornell.edu 607-351-4454
<b>Steward</b> .....Eric Weinstein '09 elw35@cornell.edu 631-827-4840	<b>Philanthropy</b> .....Alexander Keith '07 atk9@cornell.edu 917-855-1304
<b>Rush Chair</b> .....Tony Biddle '07 ab384@cornell.edu 215-370-0098	<b>Games</b> .....Christopher Richards '08 cjr42@cornell.edu 732-266-4511
<b>House Manager</b> .....Rajiv Yadlapalli '07 rty3@cornell.edu 516-672-9706	<b>Technology</b> .....Eric Wang '08 edw28@cornell.edu 607-621-8041
<b>Victory Club</b> .....Nick DiNorscio '08 M. Brian Hall '07 mbh36@cornell.edu 704-842-0100	<b>Historian</b> .....Eamon Kelleher '08 ejk35@cornell.edu 315-559-7157
<b>Asst. Treasurer</b> .....Alex Lebowitz '09 ajl73@cornell.edu 917-576-7786	<b>Song Master</b> .....Chris Gunderson '08 chg6@cornell.edu 941-380-6367
<b>Assistant Social</b> .....Eric Wang '08 edw28@cornell.edu 607-621-8041	<b>Literary</b> .....Nick DiNorscio '08 Eric Weinstein '09
	<b>Xathar</b> .....Schuyler Vreeland '09 sv85@cornell.edu 717-576-8557

# Benefiting From Alpha Delta Phi Senior Leadership

Compared with zero seniors living in the house over the past two years, there are currently six seniors residing in the Phi, many of whom are holding important positions.

Fall 2006 President Sven Erik Karlsson '07 draws upon his three years of experience to act as a strong figurehead and role model for the brotherhood.

Treasurer Patrick Kavanagh '07, serving for the second consecutive year, is actively training the Assistant Treasurer Alex Lebowitz '09 in order to ensure a smooth transition into the 2007-'08 school year.

Past President Tony Biddle '07 is doing an outstanding job as rush chair by preaching the message that rush occurs every day, not just during the single week in January.

Finally, Kevin Barmish '07 can be

credited with single-handedly resurrecting the "Faculty Speaker Series" at Alpha Delt, which hosted Knight Kiplinger '69 as a guest speaker later in the semester (*see page ten*).

This recent resurgence in senior leadership can be credited, in part, to the alumni association members who generously extended an offer granting any senior choosing to live in the house a free room during the spring semester. This incentive has helped harness the leadership abilities of the in-house seniors who, consequently, are playing a more active role in the day-to-day operations of the house. Hopefully this positive trend will continue in the years to come!

Patrick Kavanagh '07  
Undergraduate Treasurer



Brothers Aaron Beaudette '07, Sven Erik Karlsson '07, Thomas Reilly '07, and Anthony Biddle '07 on their road trip to New Mexico.

## Kevin Barmish '07 Named Cornell Greek Scholar

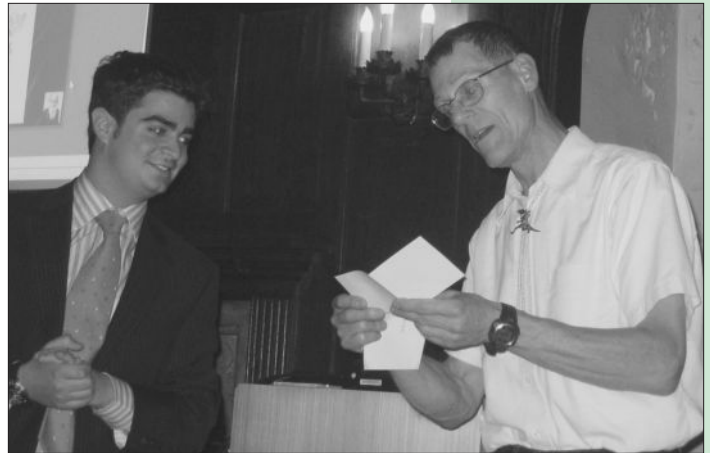
At the recent 2006 Annual Greek Faculty Appreciation Reception, held in The Straight Memorial Room, Kevin Barmish '07 was selected by his peers and the Cornell administration as one of three 2006 Cornell Greek Scholars. Brother Barmish was awarded a \$200 gift certificate to the Cornell Store.

The Cornell Greek Scholar Awards are awarded to one member from each of the three councils—the Interfraternity Council, the Multicultural Greek Letter Council, and the Panhellenic Association—for their outstanding academic achievements. For seven consecutive years this award has been given to distinguish those who excel academically, are deeply involved in their community, and show strong leadership skills in their chapter and beyond.

From the award citation: "Kevin Barmish is a student who has consistently demonstrated his devotion to improving his mind through academic, professional, and Greek-related initiatives. He has been on the Engineering Dean's list every semester while he has attended Cornell, and has used his web design skills to help build and manage the website for the Ithaca State Theater and Camp Baco in Minerva, New York. This senior has been initiated into several honor societies on and off campus, and has received the Cornell Star and Crescent Foundation Literary Scholarship. In addition, he has served as his chapter's Technology Chair, Literary Chair, and Alumni Relations Officer. Perceptive, curious, energetic, and inventive, please join the Cornell community in congratulating Kevin Barmish '07, of Alpha Delta Phi Fraternity, as this year's Interfraternity Council Greek Scholar."

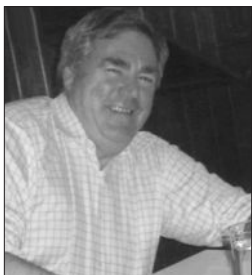
Congratulations to Kevin Barmish for his singular achievements and for bringing honor upon our society.

Joe Tucceri '00



Professor William Provine reads a letter of appreciation following his riveting lecture on the controversies of "intelligent design" at the Phi. Brother Kevin Barmish '07, the fall 2006 literary chair, looks on.

## Kent Hubbell '67 Reappointed Dean Of Students



Kent L. Hubbell '67 has been appointed to a second five-year term as the Robert W. and Elizabeth C. Staley Dean of Students at Cornell University. The Office of the Dean of Students falls under the Division of Student and Academic Services. Dean Hubbell is the primary liaison between students and the university administration and welcomes students' concerns and suggestions.

The Office of the Dean of Student promotes university

programs that help students develop a sense of belonging to a supportive educational community. He oversees the Student Activities Office, the Office of Student Support, the International Students and Scholars Office, and the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Affairs. His staff represents student interests for maximizing learning opportunities outside the classroom. Dean Hubbell also enjoys an appointment as Professor of Architecture and has been a member of the Cornell faculty since 1993.

At left, Dean of Students Kent Hubbell enjoys himself at the ACEF Trustee Dinner, held at Ithaca's John Thomas Steakhouse.

# Wi-Fi In The Phi. Why?

The hardwired Internet installed several years ago in the Phi been strained in recent semesters from greater numbers of brothers living (and working) in the house this year and the resulting increase in demand from high-bandwidth computer applications. The Internet in the house was slowing to a crawl, and usage was tied down to private rooms through the Ethernet cables. These limitations were a result of routing the entire house's internet demands through a single standard cable modem.

Several solutions were proposed and evaluated, including upgrading the cable modem to a commercial broadband line. This alternative, however, would require data infrastructure upgrades and

was deemed not to be cost-effective.

In September, three additional cable modems were installed as a solution to the bandwidth issues. These cable modems were paired with secured wireless access points and were installed at strategic points throughout the house, so every room and all common areas now have Wi-Fi (Wireless Fidelity) coverage. Since then, there have been no problems with internet outages. Next time you visit Ithaca and need to send an urgent email, stop by the house and ask any active brother for the wireless key!



WIRELESS ACCESS AREA

Eric Wang '08, Technology Chair

## House Update: Alumni Support Enables Improvements

Alpha Delta Phi at Cornell University has undertaken significant improvements in infrastructure, health and safety systems, and structural improvements. More than \$250,000



*Glorious view of the Phi patio from aloft the Tower balcony.*

has been strategically targeted toward improvements at 777 Stewart Avenue. A partial list of repairs and renovations includes: new bathroom in the Tower suite, new Tower gutters and flashing, repainted Tower exterior, more than \$10,000 in dining room furniture repairs, new dining room security screens and light fixtures, new flooring in the card room, repairs to benches in the library, new Rotunda bathrooms with custom casement windows for moisture venting, overdue repairs to the Stickley Great Table, Goat House roof repair, new door locks keyed to a master security system, and freshly painted ceilings in the Great Hall,

dining room, and Solarium. In 2007 the Phi plans to invest more than \$200,000 in repointing and regrouting the exterior stone of the chapter house.

This year has also seen changes to the upkeep of the house. We replaced the old maid with a younger, sprightlier, and quieter housemaid. Consequently, the bathrooms are always clean and community rooms usually spic and span. The alumni also installed beautiful antiqued shutters over the windows in the dining room to safeguard the windows.

We would also like to thank our esteemed alumni for the generous donations that have turned the once run-down bathrooms in the Rotunda into marble stalls. Brothers can now look forward to clean toilets for a relieving experience. Furthermore we also want to thank alumni for the porch step renovations. The new steps are a great addition to barbecues on warm fall and spring days. The living room and Great Hall rugs were also re-stitched together, and deep cleaned.

On Homecoming Weekend a committee comprised of brothers and alumni gathered to discuss future renovations to the Goat House. Renovations will include new gutters, a sealant on the outside to prevent graffiti, a new door and refurbished green tiles, bolstering the structure of the Goat House, heating systems, and ivy combat control.

The next few years will be exciting with these new improvements to the house. We send a big "Thank You!" to all alumni who have made these upgrades to the Phi possible.

Justin Mao-Jones '08, Spring 2006 House Manager  
Mark Jennings '08, Fall 2006 House Manager

## Ezra Cornell's Family Connection To Alpha Delta Phi

*(continued from page one)*

with the personal life of Ezra Cornell. Regarded as Ithaca's finest family residence, it is an outstanding and exceptionally well-preserved example of high style masonry Gothic Revival architecture. Llenroc remained in the Cornell family's possession until 1911, when the house was sold to the Delta Phi fraternity. The house is currently listed on the National Register of Historic Estates.

Most members of Cornell's Greek community assume that Llenroc was Ezra Cornell's personal residence. He died, however, before the mansion was completed and never lived in the property. It is not widely known that Alpha Delta Phi has enjoyed the honor of having three of Ezra Cornell's grandsons as members.

Ezra Cornell, Class of 1886, and Franklin C. Cornell, Jr., Class of 1889, were Ezra Cornell's grandsons, both sons of Franklin Cuthbert Cornell. The student notebooks of Franklin C. Cornell, Jr. are contained in the Division of Rare and Manuscript Collections, Kroch Library, Cornell University Library, should any enterprising brother seek to cast a stronger light into the diaries and personal papers

of Brother Cornell.

Arthur L. Cornell, Class of 1887 was also Ezra Cornell's grandson, a son of Oliver Hazard Perry Cornell.

Two other brothers of the Phi also carry the Cornell name: George N. Cornell, Class of 1945, and Peter V.B. Cornell, Class of 1959. Their connection to the Ezra Cornell family, if any, is not known to the archivists at Kroch Library at Cornell University.

The connection of Alpha Delta Phi at Cornell University to the family of Ezra Cornell is strong and direct and is a source of pride for all AD brothers. However, the stories of the early days of Cornell and the student letters and diaries of the Cornell grandsons written while members of Alpha Delta Phi have not been fully investigated. It is my hope that a curious brother will someday examine the personal accounts contained in the Cornell family papers and uncover for us all the many interesting records and anecdotes about our society's earliest days at Cornell.

Howie Schaffer '90

# Croquet: On The Quad Or In The Phi?

Along with autumn comes the spirit of tradition. Plaid scarves and overcoats adorn the brotherhood as the leaves turn ruddy and heat begins to warm the Phi. The season had certainly stirred up old thoughts in me as I sat in my room with Brother Mark Jennings '08 discussing a bit of obscure Alpha Delt lore—croquet. Normally played outdoors, as demonstrated by the lovely black and white photos we have of youthful brothers from the 1970s and '80s on the quad, we decided the sport would be well suited for *inside* our stony walls. With a quick purchase of some equipment, the Great Hall was soon bustling with brothers and young ladies from around campus. A true meeting of the minds and of the mallets, resurrected from the silvery shadows of our archives. Finding how amicable the sport was with the brotherhood and Cornell community, I urge all that this tradition never again should be left to the dusty, old shelves.

Nicholas DiNorscio '08



*Mark Jennings '08 eyes up a shot at the first-ever Alpha Delta Phi indoor croquet tournament.*



*Caleb Schwarzbach '08, Nick DiNorscio '08, and Chris Gunderson '08 take a break from tournament play to pose for a picture in front of the fireplace.*



*Chris Gunderson '08, M. Brian Hall '07, and Nick DiNorscio '08 enjoy Homecoming dinner with their dates at the Phi.*

## Alpha Delta Phi Awards Seward Scholarships To Kevin Barmish '07 And Patrick Kavanagh '07

Alpha Delta Phi International awarded Seward Scholarships to two Cornell undergraduates at the 174th Annual Leadership and Training Conference held in Boston, Massachusetts, in August. Kevin Barmish '07 and Patrick Kavanagh '07 were both fortunate recipients of the \$600 scholarship awarded by the Samuel Eells Literary and Educational Foundation. This award is presented annually to members of Alpha Delta Phi Fraternity based upon contribution to the fraternity and academic achievement. Scholarships are awarded to full-time students in order to provide financial assistance for direct educational expenses, such as room, board, tuition, and books.

Kevin Barmish '07, a senior majoring in operations research, has made a tremendous impact on the house since being initiated in spring 2004. He has embraced the roles of alumni relations chair and literary chair by rejuvenating the literary program at Alpha Delta Phi. He resurrected the Faculty Speaker Series, which featured Dr. William B. Provine as the speaker in the first installment of the series last year. Using the momentum generated from the program's success in '05-'06, the speaker series resumed this year with Brother Knight Kiplinger '69 speaking on personal finance trends.

Patrick Kavanagh '07 is a senior majoring in mathematics and economics. Currently in his second term as undergraduate treasurer, he has also held the offices of assistant treasurer, steward, and assistant steward since his initiation in spring 2004. In addition to his academic and fraternity obligations, he is a goalie on the Cornell Men's Club Hockey Team.

Kevin and Patrick are both grateful to the fraternity for this award and thank the alumni board and alumni brothers who supported and seconded their nominations for the scholarship.

# Tuxedos And Tall Tales From Initiation 2006



*Richard Seestedt '86, Doug Smith '78, and Ron Schaefer '78 keep things organized at Initiation.*



*David Chen '07, Mark Jennings '08, Christopher Richards '08, and Caleb Schwarzbach '08 at the banquet.*



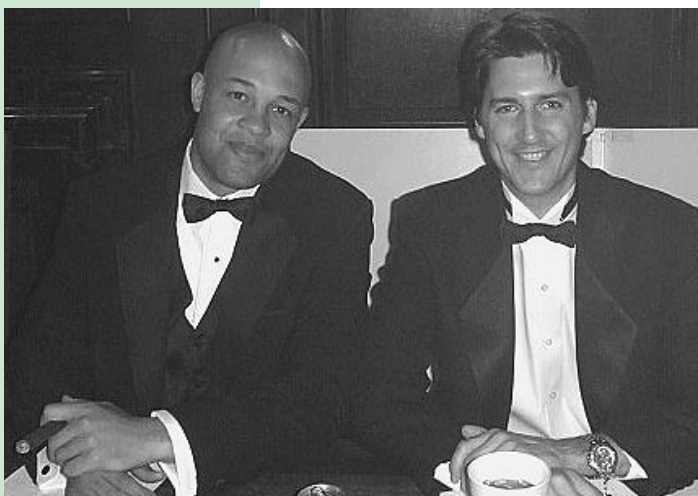
*Tom Chirurg '64 tells some old fish story while Howie Schaffer '90 laughs.*



*Miles Bloom '08, Andrew Melvin '07, Brian Hall '07, and Nicholas DiNorscio '08 celebrate.*



*Brothers Daniel Kaiser '07, Thomas Reilly '07, and Eric Wang '08.*



*Joe Tucceri '00 and Phil Ballard '00 prepare to question the candidates at Alpha Delt Initiation 2006.*



*Young alumni take a break between interviews at Initiation 2006: at left, M. Scott Berkowitz '03 and Eric Willenbacher '02, right.*

# Seen Around The Phi And Around The World



*Brothers Sven Erik Karlsson '07, Thomas Reilly '07, and Andrew Melvin '07 enjoy Victory Club.*



*Brothers Andrew Melvin '07 and Sven Erik Karlsson '07 explore the beaches of New Zealand during winter break.*



*Brother Aaron Beaudette '07 enjoying a semester away from the Phi, researching the ecology of South Africa.*



*In the kitchen, Chef Mario and brothers prepare for the Initiation feast.*



*Alpha Delt brothers participate in the Alumni Thankathon 2006. From left to right, Eamon Kelleher '08, Mark Jennings '08, Caleb Schwarzbach '08, Eric Wang '08, Schuyler Vreeland '09, Jamil Karmali '08, Jon Tesfaye '09, Kevin Barmish '07, Miles Bloom '08, Brian Hall '07, Alex Lebowitz '09, and Eric Weinstein '09.*



*Pledges T. Jonathan Tesfaye '09 and Alex Lebowitz '09 celebrate Parent's Weekend with their families.*



*The families of pledge Schuyler Vreeland '09, and Brothers Andrew Melvin '07 and Sven Karlsson '07 enjoy the hospitality of the Phi during Parent's Weekend.*



*Brother John Zirinsky '06 celebrates Parent's Weekend in style.*

# Award Winning Story: Wings Like Bees, Claws Like Angels

The following story, by Zach M. Jones '05, won First Prize in the 2006 Alpha Delta Phi International Literary Competition. In addition to the original prize and citation, Zach was awarded an unprecedented \$10,000 award from the Cornell Star & Crescent Foundation for his literary achievement. The award was generously underwritten by donations from Todd Slotkin '74 and Mike Zak '75, who share a desire to motivate and inspire undergraduate brothers to engage in literary activities such as writing, publishing, and hosting readings by campus and community authors at the Phi.

The day that she fell into the bees nest was the summer I resolved to change, listening to Fugazi again and doing four hundred sit-ups a day. The first time I vomited and lay in bed for three hours, coughing and swallowing cigarettes while tears pooled into mossy patches in the pockets of my eyes. I quit shortly thereafter, fearing that I would end up resembling my grandfather, inhaling rubber oxygen tubes and fingering a colostomy bag until it broke open, making the entire room smell of shit and sweat. He was a little mummified effigy when he passed, tearfully admitting that he was afraid of dying. He sought my father's forgiveness but the emphysema made him speak in tongues, and his confession was chortled and wet. Before it came he put up one last missive of resistance, and it took my father climbing into his moist bed and wrapping his large arms around him to finally subdue his manic convulsions.

I hurt every time, but I felt myself growing harder every day, my interior calluses gathering into tidy fabrics. I began running beneath stadium lights, climbing all the way to the vacant heights and then descending towards the dark valley of the gravel track. My thighs felt volatile, but I told myself that it was necessary. I remembered my middle school gym teacher, the one who everyday wore sweaters and nylon shorts that hung three inches from his testicles and told us that pain was weakness leaving the body while we posted low scores on the presidential fitness tests. They kept the lights on because the football team had night practices in August, and sometimes I would sit in the bleachers and watch their organized collisions. I had always wanted to play, but I could never run fast enough, and I knew I would be positionless. Whenever a lineman jumped off-sides or missed a blocking assignment, the coach would scream and make the entire team do up-downs. I started doing them in the park on my own, pumping my legs in place and then falling to the ground only to thrust myself up madly. I did them until rising felt dizzy and drunken, and then I would lay there gasping and gagging with satisfaction.

"Killer bees are real!" she screamed at me one day, crossing her arms and kicking a trash can over so that rotted bananas and Styrofoam poured out. I shrugged her off because of her age and her poor annunciation. She had a tendency to slur and spit when she spoke.

"How much do you wanna bet? They're from Africa. I'll bet you your life savings." She stuck out her hand but I refused to shake it because it was sticky and cold. Besides, I didn't have a savings account, and I would have hated to steal hers. She threatened to show me her mother's encyclopedia, so I shook my head and told her that she was right, even though I didn't believe her. I supposed that anything could be real, but had anyone ever actually seen them? Africa was an imaginary place, and swarms of murderous, winged insects seemed like another childhood chimera, the kind of thing that kids whispered about beneath blankets, those innocent fears of dying. When I was young I didn't even know the word mortality, but it hovered around me, black and bleating. A police officer told our third grade class about a girl who flew through a car window and crushed her head against a telephone pole, and thenceforth I would pull on the buckle of my seatbelt to make sure it hadn't slipped loose. I read a story about a boy who died of fire ant bites, and every ant hill I saw I rammed twigs and leaves and clods of soil into its narrow depths.



Still, I feared that someday she would prove me wrong.

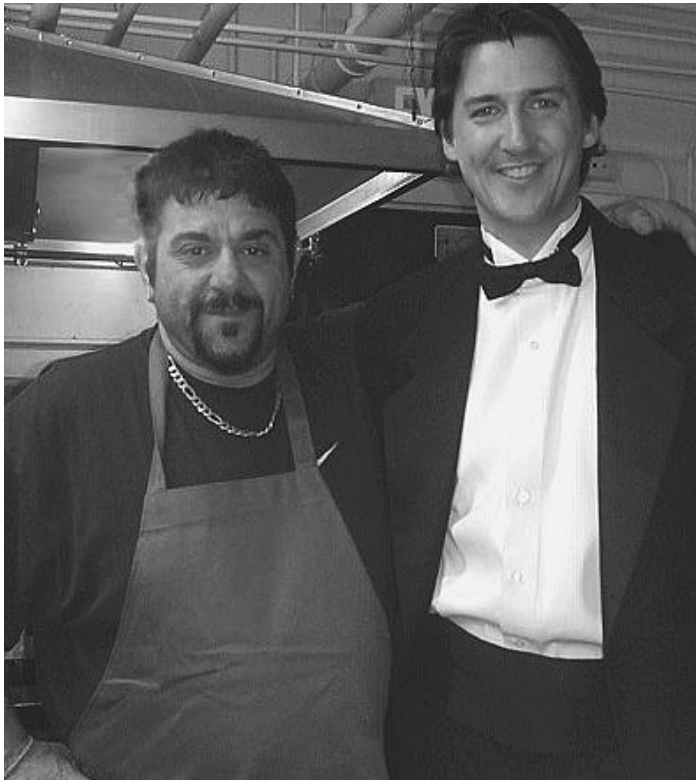
I heard her screaming in the yard behind our building between reps on the pull-up bar, and when I looked out the window there was a wide ring of children formed around her trembling body. The elevators were slow so I ran down twelve flights and out the back door. There was a hazy aureole around her, and it rose and fell in unrelenting waves. She was screaming "It hurts!" but the kids remained in a stunned circumference, no one venturing beyond the distance they had created. The noise was awful, hissing and whirring the way construction sites sounded. There was a hose on the side of the building that people used to wash their dogs, and I untangled it and dragged it out as far as it could go, but the low water pressure wouldn't allow it to reach her. I ran up and grabbed her arm, dragging her across the ground as she shrieked and squirmed. She felt like a fish. I felt them burrowing their stingers into my scalp and shoulders as I hauled her body. When I touched her they flew in every angry direction, and the kids ran screaming, leaving only me and the bees. I hosed her and myself down until all that remained was a soaking, swollen mass, black and bubbly red.

They let me ride with her in the ambulance because I was the only one left, and because I needed steroid injections to slow the swelling of my own wounds. She asked me to hold her fat hand and I did this time. Her eyes were swollen so thick that she looked somnambulant, but she spoke to me still. She was delirious and barely comprehensible, but she asked me if she was going to die. I thought it was remarkable for someone so young and so intoxicated on insect venom. I told her that I wouldn't let her, and she told me that she was afraid of angels. She told me that they were pale and ugly and they looked like birds with thick, sharp claws. I told her that when she got better I would give her my life savings, and she told me about her soccer team. I told her that my head hurt and she told me I was acting like a girl. I told her that I thought angels were scary too, and she told me that her math teacher smelled like dust. She told me that she was sleepy, and I told her that I would wait there until she woke up. She asked me something about elephants that I couldn't understand, and the ambulance parked itself while they wheeled her away from me towards the triage.

When she died she looked clawed and feral, as if her blistered skin was a husk and she had perished peeling her way out. I wasn't there when it happened, but if I was I would have amassed all of my strength to tear it away and pull her free.

The day that she proved me wrong, in the summer that I decided I needed a change, I held an ice pack against my welted head and thought about how different she looked. There, beneath me, she was boiled and soft. I barely recognized her in her ugliness, and I felt pain for not coming to her sooner. I hated myself for my sickening vanity, and I loved her for her honesty. I wanted transformation, and here it had happened to her. I bit hard into the ice pack and then let my teeth ache in a throbbing thaw. I wanted to see her before they put her into a cabinet. I wanted to kiss her swollen lips and fingers and suck out the venom, to feel her blistered mouth in mine, my tongue quivering against her hot wounds until they poisoned my taste buds and sweet forever became sour.

Zach M. Jones '05



Recently retired Chef Mario Giacco in the kitchen with Phil Ballard '00.

## Recruitment In A Changing Fraternity Landscape

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have identified this year is made of men who are robust, strong in character, and from diverse backgrounds. Throughout the years, entering through the Great Hall we have seen legacies and newcomers, athletes and scholars, and young men who simply know how to have a good time. It is my hope that many of these men will soon rub the badge on our Brothers-in Arms statue as they enter through the Great Hall this spring. We are now in a good position to recruit a strong class in January, especially with the help of our freshman legacy prospects. However, speaking as a FIJI legacy who defected to Alpha Delt (to the utter disbelief of my father), I know that we must steadfastly continue to seek out worthy candidates until bid-signing day.

And now, back to the science and art of rush. The science of rush, as I have learned, is the easy part. Building a strategic plan, working out the logistics of our events, and putting us in a position to succeed is easier to accomplish than the execution. I would argue that the art of rush—the execution—is both the more difficult and the more important element in securing a success. The art of rush lies in personal interaction; getting to know young men that come by; having the awareness to exude a personality at once both genuine and demonstrative of the Alpha Delt way.

I thank the undergraduate brothers for helping me to execute our rush program. I also thank them for contributing the valuable input over this past summer so key in shaping that program. I thank the Alumni for supporting Alpha Delt with their guidance, advice, and continued financial investment in the house's physical plant. With this superb support, I look forward to delivering a worthy pledge class in the spring.

Tony Biddle '07, Rush Chairman

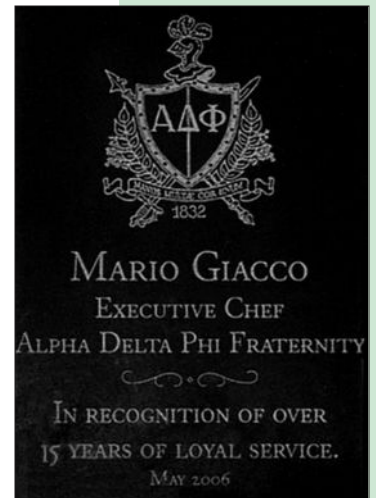
## Honoring Our Devoted Chef

Having served as steward, I would like to give the alumni an update on our kitchen situation. Thus far, our steward team has been able to maintain a balanced food budget throughout both semesters while doing our best to keep variety in the fraternity diet. We have worked hard to implement new and improved dishes in addition to all of the classic meals.

Our devoted cook, Mario, has recently retired, after over 15 years of terrific service and tasty meals. Mario has been a great personality in the kitchen every day, always ready to prepare any breakfast or lunch dish you can think of, tell you one of his entertaining stories, or to just have a chat with before going to class. His dedication to the house has been incomparable. When he was accidentally burned on his hands and face by an open gas line, he then proceeded to return to work after a brief hospital visit. This illustrates his tireless commitment to his job, to the brothers, and to the fraternity. And, of course, I can't forget to mention that his chicken parm is still beyond comparison.

Although I have enjoyed two semesters of smooth sailing in the kitchen, there are some important issues that need attention. Almost all of the equipment in the kitchen is very out of date and not up to standard with most cooking environments. Admittedly, this is a fraternity and not a five-star restaurant, but at some point in the near future these fixtures will need to be replaced for safety reasons, more than anything. Otherwise, all has been going great and I hope that alumni can join us soon to enjoy the great food and company of the Phi.

Christopher John Richards '08



This plaque was installed in the Alpha Delta Phi kitchen in spring 2006 to honor the service of chef Mario Giacco.

## Record Number Of Undergraduate Brothers Named To Dean's List

A highlight of the recent Homecoming 2006 banquet was a presentation by Steven D. Richey '81, president of the Adelpic Cornell Educational Fund, of a record number of \$500 academic awards to undergraduate brothers in celebration of the honor of being named to the Dean's List of their respective colleges. Fall 2006 is the 10th consecutive semester in which four or more brothers have won ACEF academic awards.

The deserving winners are: Sven Karlsson '07, Kevin Barmish '07, Patrick G. Kavanagh '07, Rajiv Yadlapalli '07, Eric Wang '08, M. Brian Hall '07, Christopher Richards '08, David Ryan '08, and Scott Marrett '08.

The ACEF makes cash awards annually, at Homecoming and Initiation, to recognize exemplary scholarship. The awards are made in memory of Theodore H. Booth '25 and James T. Lewis '27. An additional award is made in the fall, to the newly initiated brother with the highest GPA earned while a pledge, in honor of R. Bruce Hart '84. More information on these awards can be found at: <http://www.adphic Cornell.org/scholarships.asp>.

# A Blast From The Alpha Delta Phi Past

I was leafing again through *The Cornell Chapter of Alpha Delta Phi 2006 Membership Directory & History of The Phi*. I wondered if brothers knew that several pages of the 1948 *Cornellian* featured the Alpha Delta Phi bar and images of the long-lost Abner Dean murals that once graced the walls of The Phi basement. On page 364, the picture at bottom right is obviously Alpha Delt with the murals, and I think the top right was the same corner before the murals. I believe I recognize Bob Englebert, Frank Knight and Jack Huddleston. That was the singing corner every Saturday night in those days. So the murals went up some time in 1947-'48. And I think it was Jim Marsh and some girls from Hotel or Architecture who did most of it.

Then, on page 385 there's a picture that also features the murals in the background, but with me in the foreground—I am the one between the two girls, only one of which was my house party date—the blond on my left. For some reason, that is not my normal expression!

Xaipe,  
Ray Tuttle '48



Photo from the 1948 *Cornellian* shows the Alpha Delta Phi murals.



Ray Tuttle '48 having twice as much fun – guided, perhaps by the Alpha Delt mural.

## Knight Kiplinger '68 Shares Economic Forecast At Special House Dinner

On Thursday, November 30, 2006, Brother Knight Kiplinger '68, along with his wife, Ann, and daughter, Daphne, joined the brotherhood for a very special dinner. Mr. Kiplinger is editor-in-chief of *The Kiplinger Letter*, *Kiplinger's Personal Finance Magazine* and *KiplingerForecasts.com*.



Knight Kiplinger '68

We enjoyed a delicious soft-shell crab and rack of lamb dinner cooked by our new chef, Scott Schmutzler. We then congregated in the living room by the fireplace where Brother Kiplinger lectured on current issues in the U.S. economy. The brothers of the Phi greatly appreciated the honor of receiving a private presentation by Mr. Kiplinger, our nation's foremost expert on personal finance.

Kevin Barmish '07

## Tony Biddle Says "Thank You!"

Trustees of The Alpha Delta Phi  
c/o Mary Nash  
130 East Seneca Street, Suite 400  
Ithaca, NY, 14850

Anthony Joseph Drexel Biddle IV  
777 Stewart Avenue  
Ithaca, NY, 14850

Dear Trustees,

I wanted to offer my sincere thanks for awarding me with the McVoy Scholarship. The Alpha Delta Phi has given me more than I could possibly have expected when I decided to pledge over two years ago. The friends I have made, the experiences I have had, and the leadership and responsibility opportunities I have enjoyed are reward enough for me. However, in an age when the expenses associated with higher education are becoming ever more burdensome, I can truly say that my family and I appreciate this recognition.

I decided to take a leadership role in the fraternity from the start. In my four semesters as a full brother, I have been Vice President and President, in addition to several other Chair positions. In my final undergraduate year, I am glad to report that I am renewing my dedication to the success of the house. In an effort to leave a lasting legacy on the culture and strength of our chapter, I took on the challenge of being this year's Rush Chair. I have already forged a strategic plan that not only reflects my vision, but also incorporates the ideas and opinions of many other contributors within the house. I look forward to presenting the alumni with a strong, substantial pledge class in the spring which we can all be proud of.

I have always believed that the success of any group relies almost entirely on the dedication, commitment, and contributions of each of its members. I am proud to have contributed all I could to The Alpha Delta Phi and consider myself privileged in doing so. I am proud to be an Alpha Delt.

Xaipe

Anthony J.D. Biddle '07  
Undergraduate Brother, The Alpha Delta Phi of Cornell University

# News From Our Alumni

**William C. Arthur '44** has moved to 129 Rivermead Rd., Peterborough, NH 03458.

**William R. Bromstedt '45** has a new address: 145 N. Milwaukee Ave. #6013, Vernon Hills, IL 60061; e-mail to wrbromstedt@aol.com.

**Robert N. Post '50** lives at 4 Carpenter Ln., Mantoloking, NJ 08738. In May 2006, Bob got together with four other class of '50 Alpha Deltas in Warm Springs, Virginia, seen in photo below, from left to right, James R. Thomas, David L. Brooke, Robert J. Entenman, Robert N. Post, and Newton L. Thomas.



**William H. Ferguson '52** reports, "I would have like to return for this year's Reunion, etc, but a new, serious cancer condition has prevented that. Surgery radiation, and chemotherapy have left me in tough shape. However, the fight goes on. Best wishes to all Alpha Deltas, especially those from the 1947-'52 era." Write to Bill at 439 N. 24th St., LaCrosse, WI 54601; send e-mail to whfdaf@aol.com.

**William L. Hodges '52** resides at 100 Panorama Pt., Lynchburg, VA 24502; send e-mail to wlhodges2@verizon.net.

**George M. Kennedy '52** writes, "Gayle and I escaped some of the 'dry heat' of Arizona with a trip to the East Coast, Mid-West, Calgary, Canada, Zion National Park, and home, traveling over 10,000 miles! We visited many friends and relatives along the way including **Gordon Williams '52** in Ohio, **Jim Kennedy '50** in Indiana (e-mail to jimk@earlham.edu), and **Clint Kennedy '76** in Minnesota (e-mail to crk7@prodigy.net)." Stay in touch with George at 1145 W Camino de la Oca, Green Valley, AZ 85614; send e-mail to gmk31@cox.net.

**Gordon C. Williams '52** wrote to say that the Cornell  $\Delta\Delta\Phi$  *History and Directory* was a nice piece of work. Reach Gordon at 2315 Willowgrove Ave., Dayton, OH 45409; e-mail to sgwill3830@yahoo.com.



**John A. Brooke '57** writes, "I'm happy to report that I gave our daughter, Martha Brooke (pictured at left), to a 'Kiwi' from New Zealand, Steve Lee. The wedding was held in Pueblo, Colorado, where they live. Jan and **Ted Olt '57** were there to represent ADPhi." Reach John at 3404 Sunset Key Cir. #D, Punta Gorda, FL 33955; send e-mail to gigijab@swfla.rr.com.

**Thomas G. Erickson '59** has moved to 408 Madison St., Ste. #130, Shelbyville, TN 37160.

**Daniel W. Hall '59** lives at 10 Lavender Hill Ln., Andover, MA 01810; reach him by e-mail at danwhall@comcast.net.

**Peter V. Culbert '66** has a new address: 911 Old Pecos Trl., Santa Fe, NM, 87505; send e-mail to pvculbert1@aol.com.

**Thomas W. Witherspoon Jr. '69** has moved to 90 Chestnut Hill Rd., Litchfield, CT 06759. E-mail withlaw@witherspoon-law.com.

**Jeffrey G. McKinley '70** now gets mail at P.O. Box 605, Stinson Beach, CA 94970. Send e-mail to jeffmckinley@horizoncable.com.

**Gary J. Wolfe '71** writes, "After a long time, I've seen **Dave Boochever '71**, **Clif Leonhardt '69**, and **Phil Reilly '69** over the past few months. My son, **Greg Wolfe '08**, pledged Alpha Delta Phi this spring as a sophomore and convinced by **Jim McCormick '69**, **Phil Reilly** and **Howie Schaffer '90**, I surreptitiously came to Ithaca for initiation. It was a great experience." Gary also notes that his address has been printed incorrectly on occasion. Reach him at 223 W. 15th St., New York, NY 10011. Send e-mail to wolfe@sewkis.com.

**Lysle R. Waterman '81** returned to Cornell (for Reunion Weekend in June 2006) for the first time since May 1987, when he received his MPS degree from the School of Hotel Administration. Lysle and his wife, Vivian, had a wonderful time and especially enjoyed spending time with **John Tuttle '81**, **Steve Ritchey '81**, **Charles Boak '80**, and **Tony Johnson '80**. "The visit renewed and strengthened my fondness for Cornell and Alpha Delta!" Lysle is a senior associate with Marcus & Millichap. Reach him at 1788 Heather Garden Ln., Roseville, CA 95661; send e-mail to lrwaterman@comcast.net.

**John R. Tuttle '81**, has a new address: 2 Lakeridge Dr., Mechanicville, NY 12118. Send e-mail to jtuttle59@earthlink.net.

**David W. Givens '82** is now the general manager at Fisherman's Wharf Restaurant in San Francisco. Write to him at 2500 Mason St., San Francisco, CA 94133; send e-mail to david.givens@ihrco.com.

**John T. Marshall '86** has moved to 68 Marblehead Ln., Novato, CA 94949. Send e-mail to marshalljd@sbcglobal.net.

**Philip E. McCarthy '86** is a financial advisor in the Park Avenue office of Merrill Lynch, and keeps busy renovating his house (built circa 1790) in Hudson, New York. Stay in touch with Phil at 315 E 68th St., Apt. 5T, New York, NY 10021. Send e-mail to p.mccarthy1964@yahoo.com.

**Ian Timothy O'Mara '88** lives at 856 College Pkwy., #202, Rockville, MD 20853. He is a consultant and project manager with Food Strategy, Inc. Send e-mail to iomara@comcast.net.

**Gregory T. Bloom '91** recently returning from five weeks of work and adventure in Uzbekistan writing for guide book publisher, Lonely Planet. Read his travelogue at [www.mytripjournal.com/bluzbekblog](http://www.mytripjournal.com/bluzbekblog).

**John E. Mao '91** was featured in a recent issue of the *Cornell Communique* congratulating him on his success in raising funds for the Cornell squash program. John and another former Big Red teammate have committed to raising \$300,000 over three years to reinvigorate the squash teams. Results have included hiring new coaches for the men's and women's teams and top-ten finishers for both teams in the 2005-2006 season. Write to John at JMao@wsgr.com.



(continued on page twelve)

# News From Our Alumni

(continued from page eleven)

**Philip J. Mekelburg '91** writes, "Our daughter, Sarah Rose Mekelburg, was born September 27, 2006; 6lbs, 4oz. I've started a new business with a friend, Adam Capes, who graduated Cornell in 1995. We have a real estate investment fund whereby we acquire luxury residential real estate in prime destinations: beach, ski, leisure, major cities in North America and Europe. Investors own the homes and get to use them with high touch concierge services. We are in the process of acquiring our first five properties and will grow the fund to over 40 properties. By the way, that was a great ADPhi directory—very impressive." Phil now lives at 2300 Peachford Rd., Apt. 230, Atlanta, GA 30338; send e-mail to pmek102@gmail.com.

**Barron M. Williams '94** has a new address: 5524 Warwick Pl., Bethesda, MD 20815; send e-mail to barronw@mindspring.com.

**Peter J. Bilfield '95** reports, "My wife, Pamela, and I recently had our second child, Avery Ammann Bilfield, on March 29, 2006, weighing in at seven pounds, 13 ounces. **Marc Levin '95** is Avery's godfather and has graciously offered to pay for Avery's tuition if she attends Cornell." Peter is an associate with Withers Bergman LLP. Send mail to 8 Maureen Dr., Weston, CT 06883; pbilfield@optonline.net.

**Patrick M. Posta '97** is taking a break from managing interactive design projects to explore his passion for photography. Write to him at 2554 Lincoln Blvd., #331, Venice, CA 90291. Send e-mail to patrick.posta@sensory-design.com.

**Saverio W. Parlatore '98** writes, "After several years in hospitality I found my true calling in computer science and went back to school, attending Loyola University Chicago for my masters while working as a programmer for a healthcare company. After graduating this past spring, I got a job doing financial programming and have been happily working since." Saverio lives at 750 N Dearborn St., Apt. #2512, Chicago, IL 60610; send e-mail to sparlatore@gmail.com.

**Joseph C. Tucceri Jr. '00** has a new address: 5412 Oak Ridge Dr., Willoughby, OH 44094. Send e-mail to jtsmach@aol.com.

**Barnaby Stoker Kendall '01**, a son of **Peter M. R. Kendall '68**, married Sara Catherine Najork in October 2006. The bride and bridegroom both graduated from Cornell, where they met. Mr. Kendall, 27, is an account executive in the New York area for the Coors Brewing Company. His father, who is retired, was a senior VP at Coors and later the chief executive of its British subsidiary. Send congrats to Barnaby at barnaby\_kendall@hotmail.com.

**Sebastiano J. Colella '05** sent in the following news: "**Jordan 'S-bag' Willis '04**, **M. Scott 'ladies man' Berkowitz '03**, **Marc 'Z-bars' Zawel '04**, **Joshua 'Godfather' Goldstein '05**, and **Sebastian 'Sea Bass' Colella '05** have joined up in Washington, D.C., creating a stellar ADPhi crew. This fab five encourage any other Alpha Deltas to look them up and visit. The party hasn't stopped." Find Sebastian at 3772 W St. NW, Washington, DC 20007; e-mail to sjc49@cornell.edu.

## NECROLOGY

We regret to report the death of the following alumni:

**Arthur E. Hoffman '38**  
on February 26, 2006

**Walker F. Peterson Jr. '41**  
on July 7, 2006

In his last letter to *The Cornell Alpha Delt*, **Walker F. Peterson Jr. '41** wrote, "You did a fine job on the history and directory book. There were even pictures of my father, his mother and his sister at a house party in 1910! It was also helpful in remembering the names of some of the brothers."

**Ward C. Campbell '45**  
on July 25, 2006

[www.adphicornell.org](http://www.adphicornell.org)



When you visit us at [www.adphicornell.org](http://www.adphicornell.org) you can locate your brothers, learn about upcoming events, read current and past issues of the newsletter, post messages in the discussion area, see hundreds of photographs, make a gift to the house, and more! Take advantage of this easy way to reconnect with the Phi and strengthen the bonds of brotherhood.

## The Cornell Alpha Delt

Published by the Cornell Chapter of the Alpha Delta Phi Fraternity at Cornell University for its members, alumni, and friends. News contributions and photos are welcome. Please address all correspondence to the Alpha Delta Phi Fraternity, Alumni Records Office, P.O. Box 876, Ithaca, NY 14851-0876.

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