The Cornell Alpha Delt

First published in 1896 *Spring 2003*

Thanks To Generous Alums, Alpha Delt House And Brotherhood Flourish

We have many great things happening at the Phi.

First, have you seen the new driveway and parking lot? The project is not quite complete, but with Randy Bus '68 pushing it along, I am confident that it will be completed to our satisfaction, and beyond the expectations of many of us! Then, and only then, we will have to fulfill our obligation to raise approximately $150,000 in donations to Cornell to help offset the value of the improvements. If you are currently donating to the university, please consider marking your contribution for the benefit of the ADP McGraw Place Renovation Fund (#64920). Because of the generosity of a few of our alumni, we already have $125,000 committed to this project, but we need to close the gap quickly or Cornell will begin to allocate interest to the balance.

Second, created by one of our own, the John S. Dyson '65 Greek Challenge allowed a limited number of fraternities and sororities to raise funds to be matched and deposited into a segregated account for the benefit of eligible undergraduate members. Of course, we rose to the occasion and committed to raise $100,000 (the maximum allowed to any one organization), which will be matched by $83,000 to give ADPhi $183,000 in a segregated account designed to help undergraduate officers meet their work-study and other funding requirements. Of course, this is an endowment, so only the earnings will be distributed annually to worthy undergraduate members, or a single member. Since Greek officers are required to take on many responsibilities and spend a fair amount of time on the affairs of running an undergraduate chapter successfully, this fund is designed to recognize the time and commitment needed, and the consequent learning that comes with it. What a brilliant concept! Please help us meet this commitment by designating your contributions to the university for the benefit of the ADPhi/Dyson Greek Challenge.

Third, have you seen the renovated bathrooms? We redid the two flat area bathrooms a few years ago and included appropriately green and white colored tiles. They turned out beautifully. Now, we are nearing the end of the process of totally renovating the two bathrooms downstairs behind the bar, and the first large bathroom just off of the Great Hall balcony on the left. We get better with time and experience, so now have green and white tiles galore, plus a large ADPhi shield designed into the wall tiles. It is a sight to behold, and meets the bulletproof test at the same time!

To those of you who have already had a hand in the happenings at the Phi, many thanks.

To those who have yet to step up to the plate…*manus multae cor unum*. We look forward to your participation!

I wish the extended ADPhi family a happy, healthy, and prosperous 2003.

XAIPE,
Ken Growney '82
Chairman of the Board

Visit us on the web!

When you visit **www.adphicornell.org**, you can find long-lost brothers, learn about upcoming events, read current and past issues of the newsletter, post messages in the discussion area, 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.

Metro New York Brothers Gather For Fun And Fellowship

L-R: Doug Bond '66, George Doerre '04, Kent Hubbell '67, Tom Goldstone '94, Roy Sinclair '65, Ken Growney '82, Mike Millette '87 and Jason Conway '93.

More than 40 alumni brothers recently gathered at the home of Peter Kendall '68 to renew the bonds of brotherhood and share in some "Grad's Reverie." Cornell's dean of students, Kent Hubbell '67, spoke strongly of his support for a strong and healthy Greek system and Alpha Delt's rank among the finest houses on campus.

Alpha Delta Phi at Cornell, Inc.

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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.

Upperclass Brothers Set Example For Our Sophomores

I am honored to have been elected to serve as house president for the fall 2002 semester. While I was initially fairly nervous about taking on the extra responsibility, my feelings of nervousness gradually faded as the summer ended and the semester began. I learned a great deal about negotiation and compromise from my predecessor, William Kendall '02.

The house this year is much younger than it has been in past years; over half the house is comprised of sophomores, and there are only four seniors. Due to this, it was important that the younger brothers get involved early so they can continue to lead the house in the appropriate direction. Luckily, with three former presidents among the active brotherhood and a handful of fifth-year seniors, the younger guys have had visible mentors.

The older brothers have continued to provide great service to the house and hold up the ideals of the fraternity. This sets the perfect example for the young guys. Many of the new brothers have assistant positions in the house that are preparing them for higher positions in the future. They are not shy about approaching me and other officers with suggestions and comments about how the house should be run. At meetings they consistently make their voices heard and are the first ones to volunteer to help out. They are fueling the new flames of Alpha Delt.

At a time when the university is cracking down on fraternities, I feel good knowing that the future of our house is in the hands of highly qualified individuals. The year began with both challenges and opportunities, and we have just completed rush, which resulted in 18 signed bids. I am confident that 2003 will be a banner year with the able leadership of George W. Doerre '04 and a new slate of officers.

XAIPE,
Peter L. Andersen '04

Alpha Delta Phi Tradition Fellowship Recipients Announced

In 1998, fraternity and sorority scholarships and fellowships were established by university trustee and Alpha Delta Phi board member John S. Dyson '65. In conjunction with the University Scholarship Campaign, Brother Dyson matched gifts toward the establishment of endowed scholarships that relieve portions of undergraduate work requirements and provide significant grants. It was out of this generous offer that the Alpha Delta Phi Tradition Fellowship was created.

Through the generosity of Brother Dyson and other Alpha Delt alumni, Cornell is able to annually reward students who exemplify work, service, and scholarship by providing recognition and financial assistance toward education expenses. This year, Alpha Delta Phi brothers Ryan Fisher '04 and Graham Taraz '05 were the recipients of the award. Congratulations to Ryan and Graham, and many thanks to the many contributors who make this annual award possible.

If you would like more information on this tax-deductible endowed scholarship, please contact Amy H. Reichman at 607/255-3208 or ah275@cornell.edu.

Thomas E. Goldstone '94

Renovations Add Function, Beauty To First-Floor Bathrooms

Continuing major capital improvements to the Cornell AD chapter house, the alumni board of directors acted at its January 2002 board meeting to continue renovations to the house bathrooms. Original to the house, many of the restrooms have seen little change, save for a few patched tiles or new fixtures over the past several decades. In addition to the less-than-optimal quantity and quality of facilities, we've had accelerating problems with water pressure and leaks into living spaces. Fred Parkin '63 and a group of alumni brothers were instrumental in the recent renovations of the flat bathrooms. Their hard work served as a guide for our current efforts.

The bathrooms located just off the downstairs social room and just off the Great Hall balcony were selected first for renovation. Regarded as being in the worst shape, they also presented the easiest target, using the same plumbing stack and being close to the boiler room's hot and cold water mains. As part of the project, all of the utilities serving the bathrooms were upgraded, including new hot and cold water and a new electrical branch. Empty conduits, one for future data/telephone/ cable television and one for future electrical expansion, were added to the pipe chase. The hot, cold, and recirculation (no more warm-up time) pipes are oversized by 50 percent to ensure no problems meeting current or future water needs. The lines are designed for extension throughout the Phi to replace the aging pipes that serve the rest of the building.

After six months of planning and consultation with local contractors, actives, and alumni brothers, work began and was finally completed over the recent January break. The extended planning time allowed for careful consideration of the best materials and methods to produce highly durable and functional facilities. Modern features such as automatic flush units for the toilets and automatic hand dryers mean easy to clean and environmentally sensitive facilities. For finishes, heavy duty porcelain tiles cover the walls and floors and are filled with state-of-the-art epoxy grout (the same product used to waterproof the Teagle Hall* pool). One of the design mantras was a facility that could be "hosed out" to encourage proper cleaning.

However, the interiors are more than purely functional—they boast ample AD customizations and finer touches. A four-foot square tile mosaic of the fraternity crest appears in the balcony bathroom, and "star and crescent" border tiles surround each room. Official AD green and white colors appear in the fixtures and trim pieces throughout. Antique carrera marble salvaged from original Cornell campus buildings appears as thresholds and window sills.

Many thanks are due to Mike Zak '75 and Todd Slotkin '74 for major gift support for this effort. The undergraduate brothers also thank the numerous other donors whose financial contributions made these new bathrooms a reality. Thanks also to Ken Growney '82 and Howie Schaffer '90 for their help and advice in planning and executing this project. A detailed photo array of the new facilities is available on our web site at www.adphi cornell.org.

George W. Doerre '04, Spring House President

**Teagle Hall is named in honor of Brother Walter C. Teagle, class of 1900.*

Greeks Show Thanks At Faculty Appreciation Reception At Alpha Delt

by GAUTHAM NAGESH '05,
reprinted from the Cornell Daily Sun, *October 25, 2002*

Members of the Inter-Fraternity Council (IFC), the Panhellenic Society, and the Multi-Cultural Greek Letter Association held their annual faculty appreciation reception at the Alpha Delta Phi house on Thursday, October 24. At the reception, awards were handed out to seven faculty members for making a significant impact on their students both inside and outside the classroom. Three students, one from each of the Greek associations, were also honored for their academic achievements.

Keynote speaker Professor Brian Earle '68, communication, began the event by challenging the Greek system to keep evolving in order to continue to serve the interests of both its members and the community at large.

"I would like to see more involvement with the faculty and the houses. From my own experience it just makes everything feel better. The students have more purpose with faculty around," Earle said.

Following the speech, awards were handed out to one professor in each college. Professors were nominated by students affiliated with Greek houses for excellence in teaching as well as taking a genuine interest in the lives of their students. Three students were also honored, one each from the IFC, Panhel, and the Multi-Cultural Greek Letter Association for excellence in academics and community involvement.

"I feel we accomplished our purpose, which was to recognize faculty who have directly impacted the lives of Greek students," said Eli Selinger, the executive vice president of the IFC. "It is great to have such a beautiful and spacious venue as the Alpha Delt house to hold this event. The brothers have been great hosts."

"We enjoy having this event here, because it allows our professors and administrators to see our house and meet our brothers," said President Peter Anderson '04.

Save these dates in 2003:

Cornell Reunions – June 5-8
Homecoming – October 23-26

We hope to see you at one or both of these events!

Program Development: Past, Present, Future

Past History

The Adelphic Cornell Educational Fund (ACEF) has developed considerably in the 40 years since it achieved status as a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt foundation in 1962. Its initial emphasis on providing "court-of-last-resort" emergency short-term loans to needy Cornell Alpha Delts was a valid and particularly worthy organizational focus back when financial aid (both public and private) was quite circumscribed...to say nothing of the fact that credit cards for students had not yet been invented. With the passing of time and some growth in donations, the ACEF began to sponsor additional activities, including magazine subscriptions for the House, the purchase and donation of books to the Cornell library system, and occasional partial subsidies for certain events at the Phi such as the annual Faculty Egg-Nog Party and receptions for prominent guest speakers visiting the campus.

When G. Lauriston Walsh Jr. '62 became actively involved in the 1980s, the fund extended its charitable outreach even further. Among the many initiatives Laurie (and others) championed were the introduction of financial honorariums for ADs who excelled in academics and leadership; the reestablishment of a foreign student room and board scholarship at the House; financial support for a student magazine on the Hill that had been co-founded by an Alpha Delt; and the creation of cash awards for the best essays produced in Cornell's Freshman Writing Program. It was an exciting, ambitious agenda and, truth be told, it had a significant effect on his ability to persuade some of us to donate time, effort, and money to the ACEF.

But, by the beginning of the 1990s it became evident that the fund's program "reach" was increasingly ahead of its existing managerial and administrative "grasp," as well as outdistancing the realities of its income and cash flow statements.

As a result, a considerable amount of organizational energy has been expended in recent years on:

FIRST – recapitalizing the ACEF and establishing a "core endowment" account that with prudent and patient management should grow over time.

SECOND – recasting the balance sheet and financial statements to be in sync with IRS and donor expectations.

THIRD – establishing membership and board of trustees criteria that help to ensure only fully committed individuals are involved with the fund, while still encouraging greater financial and time contributions by *all* Cornell ADs in support of the responsibilities of our alumni corporation.

FOURTH - streamlining the organization of the fund and defining specific categories for charitable donations.

FIFTH – deciding which ACEF program activities will maximize returns on "investment" to preserve the past, enhance the present, and protect the future for long-term viability of Alpha Delta Phi at Cornell University.

Current Accomplishments

During our past four fiscal years, the fund has distributed over $100,000 in program expenditures, with almost 80 percent going directly to Alpha Delta Phi for educational infrastructure upgrades of the Chapter House, along with academic prizes, research fellowships, and other benefits for undergraduate brothers. At the same time, the ACEF has continued its earlier initiatives to provide focused support for certain activities at Cornell. The following is a partial summary of recent accomplishments in each area.

On The Hill

Undoubtedly the most visibly successful undertaking of the ACEF has been the awards for freshmen in Cornell's internationally acclaimed Knight Writing Program. The initiative for our involvement came from Ian McMillan '89 who, when chairman of Victory Club at the Phi, asked if the fund could accept a contribution from the net proceeds of that event, which, in turn, could be used to provide start-up funding of a prize for the best submission in a freshman writing seminar. Professor Katy Gottschalk, director of freshman writing, enthusiastically accepted our support for such an award, and it was subsequently named after James E. Rice Jr. (ΑΔΦ) '30. From an initial prize of $50 to one student, it has grown over the years to two $300 awards each semester.

In the mid-1990s, we added a third, separate prize of $300 per term called the Adelphic Award. This goes to the best essay written in a freshman writing seminar by a student whose native language is other than English. (Students whose secondary education has been entirely in English-medium schools do not qualify.)

Indicative of the results of our support of writing at Cornell, the majority of student essays featured in the Knight Foundation-sponsored magazine *Discoveries* are usually former ACEF award winners.

In 1996, at the suggestion of ACEF Trustee Robert Maroney '72, discussions were undertaken to determine the potential to support writing excellence in the College of Engineering. Under the leadership of Professor Steven Youra, director of the Engineering Communications Program, and the encouragement of (then) Dean John Hopcraft, this resulted in the establishment of the Thomas S. Foulkes (ΑΔΦ) '52 Prize(s) for the best team projects in engineering communications courses. With initial funding provided by Brother Maroney, the ACEF contribution was $1,200/year. In anticipation of Steve Youra's return from a sabbatical at Cal Tech, our budget for this program has been increased to $1,500/year.

With Alpha Delta Phi's historical antecedents as a literary society firmly in mind, we have recently expanded outreach on the Hill still further. In the spring of 2002,

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the first School of Hotel Administration/ACEF Writing Excellence Awards were made, with a commitment to fund at least a three-year pilot program. The new dean of the Hotel School, David Butler, is so impressed with this initiative that he has decided to match our $1,500/year. Thus, the freshman and sophomore winners receive $500 each, while the best papers produced by a junior and senior earn $1,000.

The ACEF has also been an active supporter of Cornell Political Forum (CPF). A number of ADs, including John Varoli and Andrew Reed (both '90), were instrumental in the creation of this non-partisan magazine and speaker series emphasizing reasoned and civil debate on all sides of major issues. During the decade of the 1990s, the Columbia (University) Scholastic Press Association awarded more Gold Medals for Excellence to the CPF than to any other undergraduate publication in the United States. Our efforts on behalf of this student activity have been appreciated to such an extent that non-Alpha Delts have made substantial donations to the ACEF, among them an alumnus member of Sigma Phi, as well as a former CPF editor-in-chief now earning an MBA at Harvard Business School.

In The House

As a tax-exempt educational foundation, ACEF funding initiatives must always be deemed transparent and legitimate to a potential audit from the Internal Revenue Service. This has, on occasion, been a source of friction with the board of the AD alumni corporation and, no doubt, will continue to be so from time to time in the future. Nevertheless, the focal point of ACEF emotional energy will always be to serve as a supportive and effective adjunct to the undergraduate and alumni leadership of the Cornell Chapter of Alpha Delta Phi. In recent years, this has essentially involved underwritten or contributive funding for three types of activities, to which we would hope to add a fourth in the not-too-distant future.

Information technology (IT) improvements at 777 Stewart Avenue have certainly been the most costly use of ACEF financial resources. However, it should be stated up front that these improvements would not have been possible without the exceptional charitable donations of Robert Woods '44. In 1998-'99, he personally underwrote more than half the cost of constructing a computer room and adjacent study lounge in the basement of the House. The former was equipped with four high-speed, cable-access terminals, computers, server, and printer; the latter contained a large table, chairs, and "raceboard" outlets for laptops.

Although this extensive project had been undertaken by the fund at the request of the alumni corporation (which provided design plans and equipment specifications), it soon became evident that if Alpha Delta Phi were to keep up with the IT "curve," the whole house would have to be wired for high-speed internet access. Consequently, the major undertaking of our current fiscal year ending April 30, 2003, has been to extend broadband cable-access hard-wiring to all of the study bedrooms. Concomitantly, wireless ("wi-fi") access points were added throughout the ground floor and even the dining room. Again, Bob Woods was the major financial contributor to this upgrade, while Ron Schaefer '78 and Nick Matuszczak '01 (respectively, ACEF treasurer and secretary) have each given more than a week of their time, not just in site-managing the contractor, but also in "pulling cable" themselves...not an easy task given the construction realities of the Chapter House.

Another major ACEF undertaking at the Phi is to encourage and reward educational achievement. To date, this has resulted in two distinct initiatives.

Academic Excellence Awards were created by Doug Smith '78 (past president of the fund). There are up to four $500 awards for brothers who are on the Dean's List of their respective college and have made positive contributions to the maintenance and management of the House. A fifth award can be made in the fall semester to the brother who held the highest GPA while pledging the previous spring. We are currently discussing the efficacy of creating an additional award that would recognize the undergraduate who shows the greatest academic improvement. In addition, the ACEF has had a long-standing policy of financial "matching" for any prizes received by brothers from the ADP International.

After a number of "shotgun" funding efforts in the early 1990s, we have attempted to institutionalize a summer undergraduate research fellowship (SURF) for one AD in the summer following his junior year. Cornell, along with a rapidly growing number of the most selective colleges and universities in the country, promotes the availability of research opportunities for undergraduates when recruiting high school seniors. Unfortunately, the reality of the situation, particularly outside of the physical sciences, is usually less than what students would like. Our stipend of $3,000 has been administered

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ANNUAL LETTER FROM THE ACEF

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through the Office of the Assistant Dean for Undergraduate Research in the College of Arts and Sciences. John Dyson '65 and Roger Joseph '73 have been particularly generous contributors to the program.

As a direct result of his summer research, the first winner, Dorian Fougeres '98, went on to become a Rhodes Scholar nominee, graduated *magna cum laude*, and is currently in Indonesia carrying out field work for his PhD from the University of California, Berkeley. (Even though Dorian graduated four years ago, he is still prominently featured in the Adventures in Research section of the current edition of the Cornell Admissions Office primary marketing publication, the *Big Red Book*...in spite of the fact that his work was almost solely underwritten by the ACEF and not his alma mater.) Other SURF winners include the current secretary of the alumni corporation, Rudy Koch '00, who is at the top of his class at Cornell Law; Kyle Youngquist '02, who subsequently went on to the London School of Economics for an additional semester; and Billy Kendall '03, who has decided to take the foreign service examination for the Department of State.

To celebrate the start of the new century, and with the encouragement and financial support of Knight Kiplinger '69, the ACEF has begun a formal involvement to develop an archival history function for Alpha Delta Phi in conjunction with the alumni corporation and the Office of the University Archivist at Cornell. Howie Schaffer '90, newly elected president of the alumni corporation, has agreed to be "point man," and recent and future issues of *The Cornell Alpha Delt* present some of the results of these efforts.

Future Potential

In considering any new initiatives for the ACEF, it is important to understand that the climate for fraternities and sororities at Cornell is no longer benign. The cover letter in the latest annual report from the Advisory Council to Cornell's Office of Fraternity and Sorority Affairs states that the "focus for the upcoming year is to create a chapter environment that supports...intellectual and personal development." Yet, for the first time in history, Cornell's principal recruiting brochure (the *Big Red Book*) gives no mention of fraternities and sororities, even though the existing north campus residence halls, the five planned west campus "houses" (replacing the old university halls) under the Living Learning Initiative (LLI), the 10 residential "program" houses, *and* Collegetown are all discussed in detail.

Because of this, the ACEF believes it is critically important to make sure that "investments" by our donor base clearly reflect direct commitment to educational development at Alpha Delta Phi and other independent living units, while continuing to demonstrate affection for and support of Cornell University.

With this in mind, the fund is in the process of contributing $2,500 (which will be matched with an additional $2,500) for the soon-to-be-completed new Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology. It is to be used "strictly for the restoration and hanging of the Louis Agassiz Fuertes (ΑΔΦ 1897) art collection." In recognition of this $5,000 gift, "Adelphic Cornell Educational Fund will also be etched on the wall" listing significant donors to the new building.

The ΑΔΦ alumni corporation previously received partial funding from us (totaling $2,900) for the two "retreats" it sponsored for undergraduate brothers in the fall of 2000 and 2001. Currently, Cornell is in the process of establishing a Fraternity and Sorority Emerging Leaders Education Retreat "designed to prepare sophomore and junior leaders for future positions within their chapters and governing councils" by focusing on "strategic planning, communication exercises, and developing leadership skills." The ACEF has orally volunteered to pay a $1,000 honorarium for the professor who will act as the discussion facilitator at the retreat. Our "investment" is subject to the receipt of certain related paperwork from the university, as well as formal approval by our board of trustees at the next semi-annual meeting of the fund.

In 1999, Fred Parkin '63 sponsored a pilot effort for an "Alpha Delta Phi Fiction Prize" of $1,000 that encouraged submissions from all Cornell undergraduates. Although it was incredibly successful, and although a number of ΑΔΦ chapters, such as Trinity and Wesleyan, are involved in similar contests, there was no demonstrable interest or support from the leadership of the Cornell Chapter. If this situation were to change, the ACEF is committed to funding the actual prize amount, with Cornell and the fraternity undertaking any related judging, administrative, and promotional overheads.

However, the most important "new" activity that the ACEF is interested in developing and subsidizing is what we euphemistically title in our annual proposed budget, "Hill/House functions." As generations of Alpha Delts are aware, the fraternity has traditionally held enjoyable and memorable cultural and educational events at 777 Stewart Avenue. Whether the occasion was a professor speaking to brothers and dates in the library after dinner, a music recital in the solarium, a faculty reception in our spacious living room, or a notable political pundit privately addressing a select guest list in our elegant and unique Great Hall, historically the Cornell Chapter of Alpha Delta Phi has had a well-deserved reputation, on campus and beyond, for always having a leadership cadre of undergraduate brothers who had a genuine interest in at least aspiring to being Renaissance men.

The trustees and donor base of the Adelphic Cornell Educational Fund look forward to seeing some of this ambiance return to the House, and we stand ready to offer support if Alpha Delts begin to recruit once again from a broader cross-section of their peers.

Thom Chirurg '64
President, ACEF

FROM THE ARCHIVES...

One of the wonderful rewards of serving as alumni president are the letters and phone calls I receive from brothers and their families sharing stories about Alpha Delta Phi at Cornell and its relationship to significant events in their family histories. One of the best recent surprises was the arrival of a 1903-1916 photo album belonging to Richard Henry Cobb '09, donated by his son, Carl B. Cobb (Hudson* '49). The Cobb family has produced three generations of Alpha Delts, as Jeffrey B. Cobb '83 is also a brother.

The Cobb photo album contains rare photographs of the exterior and interior of the original Alpha Delta Phi built in 1903 at 777 Stewart Avenue by George R. Dean, a student of Frank Lloyd Wright. The album also contains portraits of brothers and their guests from nearly a century ago. This month we feature images from Brother Cobb's era along with an eyewitness report of the fire on February 11, 1929, which consumed the original house.

While the Cobb album is a treasure trove of glimpses into another era, it is also the chronicle of Richard Cobb's courtship of Edith Boardman while Brother Cobb was a Cornell undergraduate. They married in August 1910, but the photo album provides ample evidence that Alpha Delta Phi was an important "third wheel" in their budding romance. The photos of the young lovebirds in and around the house tell a story of innocence and devotion.

We are grateful to the Cobb family for donating an important archival asset to be housed in the Alpha Delta Phi Collection at Kroch Library.

Howie Schaffer '90

**The Hudson Chapter of Western Reserve College (now Case Western Reserve University) is now defunct.*

Original Alpha Delta Phi at Cornell house at 777 Stewart Avenue, circa 1906.

Original porch, later rebuilt as "the solarium."

Goofing at the chapter room.

Richard Cobb '09 and Edith Boardman at Alpha Delt.

Hi, hi, hi...rah, rah, rah, Cornell!

Above: Main hall, circa 1907.

Above: Library, circa 1907.

Right: Original dining room, circa 1906.

THE CORNELL ALPHA DELT

Published by the Cornell Chapter of Alpha Delta Phi

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CHAPTER HOUSE FIRE

Total Loss Estimated

As announced in the initiation notices, the Chapter House was completely destroyed by fire on February eleventh.

The fire was discovered about 7:40 P.M., when most of the brothers were in the House. One of the men on going upstairs to his room felt the heat and heard a crackling. He opened the door to the linen closet on the second floor and saw, through the trap door, the smoke and flames in the attic. He gave tbe alarm immediately, and while the members of thc Chapter got the auxiliary fire appartatus into action, the Ithaca Fire Department was on the way. But the fire had evidently been burning for some time, for the entire loft was soon in flames and the fire apparatus had little effect. The only means of getting at the blaze was through the small trap door in the ceiling of the linen closet.

In a short time the Ithaca Fire Department had arrived and realized that the fire was serious. They notified the men in the House to start moving the furniture out. Meanwhile, they played a small chemical hose on the flames, but without any measure of success. Little water was available due to the low pressure. Within a very few minutes after the arrival of the City force, part of the upstairs ceiling fell down, and the firemen used this new hole to pour more water on the flames.

Many came in downstairs, and, together with the members of the Chapter did good work in moving out the furnishings. Among the first things taken out were the two large bird paintings, done especially for the Chapter by Brother Louis A. Fuertes. The lower floor and the basement where the dining room was located, were cleared of their furnishings, but the top floor, where the bedrooms aud studies were located, was too near the flames to allow but little salvage and it was here that the heavy losses were sustained.

The Chapter regrets very much the loss of the paintings above the mantlepiece in the dining room, painted and presented by Brother Chester Loomis.

Within an hour after the alarm had been turned in, the House was a mass of fire from front to back. The flames which towered skyward drew many townspeople as well as students to the scene, and the slippery grades about the building were crowded with an ever-increasing number of spectators. The several hoses which were played on the blaze seemed sadly ineffective, and the shower of sparks which went into the air threatened the nearby roofs. The roof of an adjoining fraternity house was burning at one time, but the blaze was quickly extinguished.

The fire was still a red glow in the sky at eleven in the evening, but the House was a mass of blank walls and chimneys, and the Fire Department left, after taking all precautionary measures. Only the lower stone foundation remained standing on the following morning. The Lodge and tunnel were not damaged.

The cause of the fire is unknown, but it is believed that it was due to defective wiring or an overheated flue.

The exact loss has not yet been adjusted, due to difficulties in determining replacement costs, but it is estimated that the insurance will be adjusted on the basis of a complete loss.

Figures to rebuild run from two to three times the original cost of the house.

Our insurance had been recently materially increased because of the great advance in building costs since the war.

The University has asked us to consider a dormitory plan together with Psi U and Sigma Phi, whose houses on the campus must be razed this year to give a site for a law building.

CHAPTER HOUSE IN FLAMES

For information on making a tax-deductible donation to support the Phi's ongoing archival efforts, contact Howie Schaffer at 301/891-2999 or hbs3@cornell.edu.

ALUMNI WRITE

ROBERT J. WOODS JR. '44 makes his home at [redacted]

Retired from Viron Energy Services in Kansas City, GEORGE S. DIEHL JR. '51 can now be reached at [redacted]

Liz and ROBERT B. HUBBARD '59 have lived in San Diego for the last 12 years. They have a daughter in Chicago and a son and daughter-in-law in Vermont, and last May they welcomed a granddaughter. "Send me an e-mail," writes Bob, "and let me know where you are and what you are doing." E-mail reaches him at [redacted] and "snail mail" at [redacted]

STAN LOMAX '59 wrote to tell us of the June reunion of his Alpha Delt classmates in Boston. "The Thursday through Monday extra long (but in reality far too short) weekend was planned and administered by Ann and DAN HALL '59. The event was attended by all 11 AD classmates, the second time we've had 100 percent attendance. Returning '59ers were CAL CARR, BOB DODGE, BILL DRING, TOM ERICKSON, DAN HALL, HANS LAWAETZ, STAN LOMAX, TOM MARTIN, BOB McCLELLAN, BOB NELSON, and DAVE VROOMAN with spouse Sally Eaton Vrooman. Also attending were HANK HUBBARD '57 and lifetime honorary '59er and spouse Marianne Smith Hubbard, along with several Boston-area '58ers, including GORDON ANDERSON, BOB BRYANT, JIM EDGAR, MAL JOHNSTON, DON MARSHALL and spouse Dale Rogers Marshall, and JACK NESTOR. The Halls planned a truly enjoyable set of events, including a sumptuous dinner at their Andover home, a concert at the Boston Pops, excursions along the Freedom Trail, trips to Lexington and Concord, a tour of Harvard hosted by Bob McClellan, a Red Sox game at famed Fenway Park, and a whale-watching cruise. Diners at various Boston eateries featured the talented '59 singing efforts, somewhat set off by the '58 folks' attempts to emulate our quality sounds. The event was our fourth biannual get-together. We have not yet decided where to convene in two years, but convene we will!" Write to Stan at [redacted] or at [redacted]

Left: The Boston reunion of the AD class of '59 (and friends). Bottom row (l-r): Cal Carr, Stan Lomax, Tom Erickson, Bill Dring, and Hans Lawaetz. Top row (l-r): Dan Hall, Bob Nelson, Tom Martin, Hank Hubbard, Bob Dodge, Dave Vrooman, and Bob McClellan.

BERNARD F. ILIFF '61 married Wanda Vass last March, and in November they moved to [redacted], "four short blocks from the beach." Send greetings to Bernie at [redacted]

A professor at Purdue University, OTTO C. DOERING III '62 can be reached at [redacted] or at [redacted] He brings to our attention that classmate PEDRO SANCHEZ '62 won the prestigious World Food Prize (the foremost international prize for improving the world's food supply) last August. Pedro is a professor at UC Berkeley whose soil management techniques enabled 75 million acres of marginal land in Brazil's Cerrado to be brought into production—"the single largest increase in arable agricultural land in the last half century," according to the World Prize Foundation.

Drop a line to ROBERT T. BLAKELY III '63 at [redacted]

JAMES C. RICHARDS III '63 and his wife, Bobby, live in Japan at [redacted] Not long ago they visited Sandy and JOHN BEEMAN '63 in Vietnam, where John is in charge of Citibank Vietnam. J.C. writes, "Vietnam, especially Hanoi, which retains more of its French heritage, is a wonderful place to shop and eat. The bustling city is clearly working to become the next Asian success story."

Architect JOHN P. FRANZEN '70 reports that his son, Willy, is in the ILR class of '06. Write to Jack at [redacted]

"I have enjoyed receiving the *Cornell Alpha Delt* newsletter over the years," writes CHRISTIAN T. MILES '76 [redacted] "My son, John, has been

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ALUMNI WRITE

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accepted into Cornell's School of Arts & Sciences for fall 2003, so I expect to be stopping by to see the house in the fall. During my 25th reunion two years ago, I showed John the AD house, where we attended a reception and heard the Sherwoods sing in the sun room." Christian remains in regular contact with MIKE ZAK '75, GARY STIRGWOLT '76, CHARLIE BRODHEAD '76, and JOHN RAMSDELL '76; Mike, Gary, and John live in the Boston area with their families, and Charlie is moving back to Houston after several years in London. From time to time Christian also speaks with LANCE DAVIS '76, who practices law in Saint Louis.

Stay in touch with RICHARD C. CREASE '79 at [redacted]

The general manager of the Sheraton Dallas Brookhollow, DAVID W. GIVENS '82 can be reached at [redacted]

CLIFFORD J. HURLEY '86 resides at [redacted]

Congratulations to RAYMOND H. POTTER JR. '87 and his wife, Lotte, on the birth of their third child, Jake, on June 5, 2002. In August Ray left Credit Suisse First Boston to start a commercial mortgage-backed securities business at Dresdner's subsidiary bank EuroHypo, the largest real estate bank in the world. "Both events are keeping me busy," writes Ray, whose address is [redacted]

"G'day from Australia!" writes PETER FREVEL '88 [redacted] "There's no better place in the world. It's a brilliant lifestyle here, and Sydney is probably the most beautiful city I've ever lived in. It's been a bit of a struggle with work, getting residency, etc., but after six years, it's finally working out. I haven't been with Inter-Continental Hotels since I left Moscow in 1997 but am now managing a travel company that specializes in outbound travel to Eastern Europe, Russia, and Central Asia." Peter adds, "I often think back fondly to our days at Cornell."

When we last heard from SHAHRAM S. GHOLAMI '92, he was in the process of moving. We don't yet have his new postal address, but his e-mail address is [redacted]

After 10 years of parish ministry in the Episcopal Church, COLIN H. WILLIAMS '92 decided to take a "sabbatical." "Last year I worked for Dell as a computer salesman in the business division, and now I am in the MBA program at UNC–Chapel Hill. Please call, write, or e-mail if you need a financial chaplain!" Colin can be reached at [redacted]

A producer at ABC News in New York, THOMAS E. GOLDSTONE '94 lives at [redacted]

Please note this new address for JOSEPH R. WELCH '94: [redacted]

PETER J. BILFIELD '95 wrote last summer to tell us of two imminent weddings—CAMERON DAULER's ('96) in Costa Rica (which was to be attended by Peter, MARC LEVIN '95, and TOM GOLDSTONE '94), and his own, to fellow Cornellian Pamela Murray in November. Send best wishes to Peter and Pamela at [redacted]

JAMES C. HARBERSON '95 is living near Phoenix, Arizona, where he teaches law, writes opinion, and "tends to the insanities of two beagles, Jefferson and Lucy." Visit his web site at twoenemies.com, or write to him at [redacted]

DANIEL SWEENEY '97 reports a new address of [redacted]

An associate at Credit Suisse First Boston, GEORGE MATSUZAKA '98 can be reached at [redacted]

DECEASED

We regret to report the death of the following alumni:

GEORGE V. BAYLY '39 • *January 23, 2002*
JAMES C. MILLER II '54 • *June 17, 2001*
JOHN E. MINAHAN JR. '59 • *April 21, 2002*
PETER H. PINCOFFS '51 • *October 2001*
EUGENE L. WOLFE JR. '45 • *April 19, 2002*

John E. Minahan: 1933–2002

Award-winning novelist John Minahan died in Palm Springs, California, on April 21. Author of 22 books, he was recognized as a "truly gifted American artist whose reputation is secure among the finest writers of his generation." His autobiography, *The Music of Time*, was published in 2001.

Born in Albany, New York, in 1933, John was an alumnus of Harvard and Columbia as well as of Cornell. He is survived by his wife of 36 years, Verity.