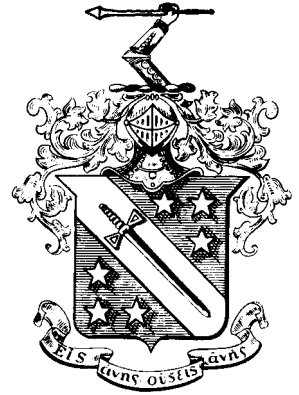


# the dutchman phi

NEW YORK BETA CHAPTER  
OF PHI DELTA THETA  
AT UNION COLLEGE



SCHENECTADY, NEW YORK

WINTER 2003-'04

## New York Beta Initiates 25

New York Beta brings in the new year with 25 new brothers, the largest class in recent history. The class is very eager and looking forward to taking over the leadership of the chapter as we graduate the rest of the brotherhood. The new brothers face a difficult challenge and need the help and support of our alumni.

In other house news, we are looking at a few house projects to do over the summer. A few of the possibilities include remodeling the second- or third-floor bathroom or replacing the windows on the first floor (including the big window in the pool room). We are currently in the process of getting bids for these projects.

With the repairs and upgrades needed to the chapter house, the house corporation really needs the support of our fellow alumni. Please donate to the chapter using the enclosed gift card. If you choose to donate through the Union College annual fund, just make sure to designate the money to go to Phi Delta Theta when you make your donation.

I look forward to seeing any alumni who attend ReUnion Weekend this spring and wish everyone a very happy and prosperous new year!

Yours in the Bond,  
Philip Boyce '96  
Chapter Advisory Board Chairman  
House Corporation Treasurer

## Phikeia Face Challenges

Sophomores and juniors alike look at fall term and see the opportunity to join a fraternity. Following a two-week rush period, 32 upperclassmen made their decision to pledge at Phi Delta Theta.

This year's pledge class has a difficult task before them as the current brothers will graduate and move out in June. Learning how to run a house will be a difficult task for our group, which has shrunk to 25—24 sophomores and a sole junior, with a mix of athletes and non-athletes. Our diverse group of phikeia will learn to come together as one throughout the pledging process.

Although we might have a more demanding journey ahead of us than the typical pledge class, we see this not as a weakness, but as an opportunity to strengthen the brotherhood.

Mark Weiner  
Phikeia Fall '03



*The brotherhood with the new brothers.*

## Phis Give Their All To Rush

This fall term, the brothers at New York Beta held a jam-packed and successful rush. The Phis and upperclassmen socialized for several days throughout the course of some fine events, such as meet-and-greet barbecue, Monday night football, '80s night, and even a Ben & Jerry's ice cream social. After much deliberation and debate, the brotherhood decided to give out just over 50 bids to a diverse group of Union students mostly from the sophomore class and a few from the junior class.

As pledging has now begun, the phikeia number 25, and their bonds as a class are continually growing. They are working hard to learn the rich history of Phi Delta Theta as well as get to know the brotherhood and each other. These men include several members of Union's football, basketball, and baseball teams. Several of the phikeia are involved in extracurricular activities all over campus that range from theater to the outdoor club.

With the plurality of the New York Beta house graduating this spring, we have made it our job to ensure that this phikeia class learns how to manage, operate, and efficiently run the New York Beta house of Phi Delta Theta.

In addition, several of the upperclass students who did not accept their bids or who dropped out of pledging during the early days expressed interest in entering the phikeia program again this spring. We are looking forward to it!

Yours in the Bond,  
Shanon LaCorte '04



*Phikeias in front of Colgate's chapter house.*

*"I will strive in all ways to transmit the fraternity to those who follow after, not only not less, but greater than it was transmitted to me."*

—Phikeia Oath

## Phi Delt Enjoys Success In Rush, House Repairs, Campus Relations

The beginning of the year for New York Beta held a lot of responsibility for our membership. Since we did not brother in any new phikeias last year, we were faced with a do-or-die situation. Therefore we concentrated much of our efforts last spring term on building relationships with many freshmen and sophomores. Our jobs were obviously not over this fall in that department since we needed to have a successful rush in order for Phi Delta Theta to survive here at Union College. We put together a phenomenal rush and currently have 25 phikeias who will be brothered in as soon as they complete their pledging period. The members of the current class have the potential to be great leaders.

With the pledge process as the highest priority on our list at New York Beta, I have been in contact with our alumni advisor, Philip Boyce, to enlist his help in dealing with some odds and ends. Union College is going through quite a transitional period, and by next year, Phi Delta Theta will be the only true fraternity house left on campus. The current Sigma Phi house will be taken at the end of this year, and by next year there will be two fraternities in Davidson house and two fraternities in Fox house. This is why I am trying to make a very large effort to beautify our house and to maintain good relations with the college. The school has a very good relationship with our house since we do not cause problems like other fraternities on campus. We are currently in the process of getting a different heating system, completely redoing the bathrooms on the second and third floors, and fixing windows that have been overlooked in the past. We also just received a new 54-inch television from our alumni account, which

*"It is the spirit of true brotherhood that touches the depths of a man's inner life and wards off sorrows and disappointments, opens the way for the highest service, and furnishes the inspiration for right living."*

—John Wolfe Lindley

is much appreciated by all brothers and phikeias.

As this is my first time in an executive position, I have been working very hard to make sure that all aspects of our house run smoothly. Last year we received the community service award for completing almost 1,000 hours of community service, and this year we are working toward that goal again, and many others. We have a community service event coming up in which the Big Brothers Big Sisters club of Union College is going to watch a Union football game from our porch, have some pizza, and watch a movie. The brothers are very excited about this event, as am I, and we also plan to do at least two more events with Big Brothers Big Sisters. We also plan to participate in Special Olympics (as we did last year), food pantry, and possibly a cleanup of Schenectady County.

I am proud to announce that we have been very successfully involved with the Interfraternity Council (IFC) at Union College. During Greek Week last spring, Phi Delta Theta was in charge of the softball marathon. This marathon had been managed by the brotherhood a few years ago, and the proceeds went to benefit ALS research. This past marathon actually went to raise money for leukemia research since one of our brothers, Keith Pabian, had to raise a certain amount of money to take

part in the Mayors Midnight Sun Marathon held in Anchorage, Alaska. This year we will be heading the event again, and the proceeds will once again go to benefit ALS research.

Phi Delta Theta's future at Union College will be decided this year because the house is full of seniors. This is a very big responsibility for the new brothers. I believe that we will do an amazing job and that Phi Delta Theta at Union College will be stronger this year than it has ever been in the past. We completed recruitment with flying colors, and I expect that by the time this year is over, our organization will have a membership greater than any on this campus. This is still in the hands of the brothers, but I have faith in this house and everyone who is a member. The alumni support has been tremendous, and I want to make sure all the alumni realize how important their help has been.

Here's to one of the most successful years of Phi Delta Theta at Union College.

Yours in the Bond,  
Justin Haviland '04  
Chapter President  
Community Service Chair

## ALUMNI WRITE

RICHARD L. BUCHANAN '45 has moved to 14645 Preston Rd., #202, Dallas, TX 75254. You can reach him by e-mail at tvnrlb@aol.com.

BARRY BYRON '53 receives mail at Interstate Square, Bldg. 1, 4230 State Rte. 306, #240, Willoughby, OH 44094. He writes, "I had a nice visit with brothers BILL SNYDER, ELWYN HARP, DAVE LENT, and GEORGE BAXTER, all class of '53, at our 50th reunion in May 2003. My wife, Maureen, and I spent some very pleasant time with brother TED CALDES '53 and his wife, Mary Alice." Send e-mail to Barry at bbyronlaw@aol.com.

Stay in touch with VAN S. HUBBARD '67 at 5022 Acacia Ave., Bethesda, MD 20814, or at van\_hubbard@nih.gov.

PAUL G. ANTONY '76 is the director of human resources at QVC, Inc. Write to him at 11 Trimble Turn, Hockessin, DE 19707, or at pantony104@aol.com.

DAVID D. RUFF '79 lives at 1 Amberg Dr., Pomfret Center, CT 06259. He is now the manager for information services at Commerce Insurance. His older son, Brett,

is a freshman at Yale, and his younger son, Trevor, is in eighth grade and an avid golfer, soccer player, and National Junior Honor Society president. David's wife of 23 years, Pam, teaches high school and develops technology and transition program curriculums. Send e-mail to Dave at curran823@aol.com.

TERRY KIM '94 has a new address: 13625 SW 99th Ter., Miami, FL 33186.

MICHAEL A. NELSON '97 is stationed overseas with the U.S. Air Force. Mail reaches him at PSC 3, Box 3603, APO AP 96266, and e-mail at nelsonm@gimail.af.mil.

### DECEASED

*We regret to report the death of the following alumni:*

JOHN R. MOON '49  
on April 17, 2002

RUSSELL O. BLODGETT '53  
on February 6, 2002

## Report From The House Manager

The New York Beta Chapter of Phi Delta Theta has undergone several changes since the summer. First off, campus maintenance informed us at the beginning of the trimester that our buried oil tank had been leaking for several years. As a result of this they removed the tank, leaving us without heat. Plans are in place to install a new tank in the basement near the boiler room. The new tank is a modern, vertical standing tank with approximately half the capacity of the old subterranean tank.

On a brighter note, the house has purchased some modern electronic equipment. A 54-inch high-definition projection television was purchased to replace the old broken television. When combined with the new receiver, DVD player, and speakers, they make a very impressive audiovisual system.

In terms of house maintenance, the phikeia show great promise. One in particular is a carpenter, and he has already replaced several sections of drywall (including a massive hole in the first-floor hallway ceiling). The others are gradually learning the expectations and proper methods for housekeeping. We know that they will do a great job in this area.

Yours in the Bond,  
Jonathan Battisti '04  
House Manager

**the dutchman phi** is published regularly by the New York Beta Chapter of Phi Delta Theta at Union College for its members and friends. News contributions and pictures are always welcome and should be sent to Phi Delta Theta, Alumni Records Office, P.O. Box 876, Ithaca, NY 14851-0876.