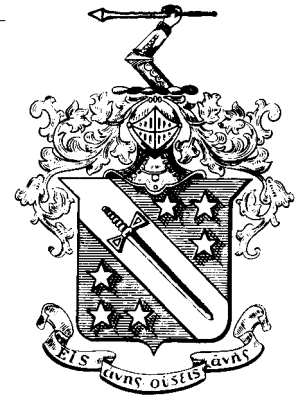


the dutchman phi

NEW YORK BETA CHAPTER
OF PHI DELTA THETA
AT UNION COLLEGE



SCHENECTADY, NEW YORK

MARCH 2003

The Alumni President Reports —

NY Beta Makes Big Improvements To The House

As we all know, Phi Delt is now a dry fraternity. One of the positive effects of this is that the house corporation does not have to keep dropping money into the house to fix whatever was damaged during the previous academic year. Over this past winter break we made some major improvements to the chapter house.

The porch off of the third floor was renovated, along with the living room and pool room ceilings. The porch was stripped down and refinished. As you can see from the photo, it was covered with a new heavy-duty outdoor matting to prevent the problems we were having with

leaks and soft spots.

The drop ceilings in the living room and pool room were removed, and new dry-



The porch has been resurfaced with a durable all-weather, all-activities material.

wall ceilings were installed. The inside of the house was

also repainted by the brothers, and they accomplished a very professional-looking job.

Please stop by our chapter house and check out the new look. NY Beta is looking towards the future and making the house the best it can be. The only way this is possible is through the continuing support of our alumni, so please remember your experiences at NY Beta and help preserve those memories for yourself and the future brothers of Phi Delta Theta.

Yours in the Bond,
Philip Boyce '96
Alumni President
phil@pdtunion.org
www.pdtunion.org

Phi Delta Theta Gives Back To The Community

“To do what ought to be done, but would not have been done unless I did it, I thought to be my duty.”

The New York Beta Chapter of Phi Delta Theta has taken part in

more than 1,000 hours of community service so far this year. We have participated in cleaning up and beautifying Schenectady, and we also provided volunteers to help the Special Olympics in their annual bowling event.

When we all woke up that memorable Saturday morning, none of us thought that planting flowers and moving mulch was going to be very amusing. I think the fun started when one of the mum plants had fallen off the

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Softball Has Been 'Very Very Good' For NY Betas

Over the last spring term, along with enjoying the warm weather on the porch, the brothers of Phi Delta Theta played a lot of softball. This year the house was able to field two competitive teams. Both teams moved on to the playoffs, but it was the A-league team that surprised the school.

Despite coming off a season that included many last-at-bat losses and not one win, this year's squad was determined to finish out games with strength. After making the playoffs, the team quickly disposed of Sigma Chi's team behind an Adam Rosenfield grand slam that landed dangerously close to the house.

The semifinals pitted the Phi Delts against four-year undefeated and defending champions Kappa Sigma. However, bolstered by a solid defense and a "small ball" strategy similar to '80's baseball, the Phis were able to keep the heavy-hitting Kappa Sigs in check. With a seventh inning comeback, the Phis forced the game into extra innings. After spotting the enemy with three runs, the Phis put up four—shocking the standing-room-only crowd. The Phi Delts then moved on to the championship game against a strong group of freshman football players. Despite an amazing defensive play by brother Mike Tapper,

robbing the opponents of a three-run home run, the Phis were unable to overcome the wrist injury of third baseman Adam Rosenfield and had to settle for second place. Our team led off with Matt Seckler, Frank Filiciotto, and Rob Frank, who were knocked in by power-hitters Eric DeStefano, Ben Faino, Rob Yenchman, and Keith Pabian. Pitchers John Vandervoot and Murray Johnson kept the opposing hitters in the park.

Although we will be losing heavy-hitters and graduating seniors Vikramjit Sangha and Dan Anderson, the house is looking forward to a successful 2003 season.

Phi Delta Theta Gives Back To The Community

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wheelbarrow and Eric Destefano shouted, "Mum Down! Mum Down!" I would have to report that the placement of the flowers was done best by Rob Frank, who said, "You have to get inside these mums and really figure them out in order to place them well."

When planting the mums was completed we said goodbye to those wonderful yellow bundles of joy and moved on to the relocation of mulch. Then we saw that huge pile of crap, and Jeff Silver quipped, "OK, guys, we have to move that entire pile of

mulch... we are going to be here all day." However, we did not have to move the whole pile—just enough to fill some bare areas by the Schenectady Library.

The second event we took part in was the Special Olympics bowling event. Cheering and keeping score for these kids was incredibly rewarding for all of us. We came back with some great T-shirts from the event and photographs as well. We were even invited back to help out in February for the Special Olympics ski

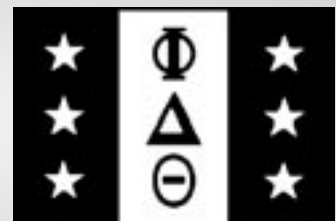
event. The day was summed up best by Ben Faino when he said, "Any one of these kids could kick our butts in bowling."

Phi Delta Theta is a fraternity that truly values volunteering to help others—in any way they need. As the year goes on, there will be many more community service events in which Phi Delta Theta will be right there to give a helping hand.

Yours in the Bond,
Justin Haviland #1127
Community Service Chair

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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 906, Schenectady, NY 12301-0906.



We Strive In All Ways To Transmit The Fraternity

Greetings, alumni! My name is Eric DeStefano, and I was elected in the spring of 2002 to be the new president of the New York Beta Chapter of Phi Delta Theta at Union College.

There have been many changes here at Union over the past couple of years with the conversion of the house system, the dwindling of the Greek system, and, of course, the general fine-tuning of the house as we start another year in our chapter's history.

Currently, we have 29 brothers, and all exemplify perfection in practicing the teaching of the bond. Last year was a successful one in pledging; with a turnover ratio of zero, we brothered-in 17 NIBS last year. In these difficult times, this was a huge step for us. We received a reward from general headquarters at the national convention in Montreal last summer. I attended the meeting, and we received one of about 10 awards handed out to chapters for increasing the brotherhood by more than 11 members from the previous year.

The executive board has worked strenuously to keep the

house in tip-top shape, and, with new renovation projects on the horizon, the house looks better each day. The porch has been redone, and we have a new Dolby surround-sound system downstairs. Ceiling fans and a new ceiling were installed in the living room, and, in the dining room, the old chandeliers were replaced with contemporary light fixtures.

Overall, I believe this house is the closest group of brothers on campus and possibly among all Phis around the country. Recently, we finished helping out with Special Olympics bowling. This marked our second community service event in three weeks. Brother Justin Haviland has strengthened our philanthropy effort, and we now have accumulated over 1,000 hours of community service.

With brothers like Justin, Matt Seckler (treasurer), Shanon LaCorte (vice president), and Mike Tapper (secretary), our executive board gets things done, and without complaining. Everyone is willing to help out and do his part for the house. "I will strive in all ways to transmit the fraternity, not

only not less, but greater than it was transmitted to me." These immortal words, spoken by our founding fathers, have been ingrained here at the Beta Chapter of New York. And, in return, the house has seen prosperity and growth in recent months, in spite of the waning Greek presence here at Union.

In conclusion, the current Phis would like to extend our thanks to all the alumni who have done their part to keep the brotherhood remaining here at Union. And even though we are separated by distance, we will always be linked through the bond.

Yours in the Bond,
Eric P. DeStefano '04, #1116



Careful Planning And Spending Secures Chapter Finances

"Money is power"

- Russell H. Conwell

As treasurer of New York Beta, I've continued the complete turnaround of the house's treasury fund that started a couple of years ago. Along with the help of Treasurer Emeritus John Vandervoot, New York Beta stuck carefully to its calculated budget for the entire fall term. In fact, income was far in excess of anticipation,

and spending was slightly lower than expected. With careful planning, the house currently offers brothers the opportunity to pay their entire year's worth of dues—all at once. These lump sum payments have allowed the house to have more money at its disposal during vital spending times, such as recruitment and work weekends. With a high percentage of brothers paying their dues on time, the finan-

cial future of the treasury account has been secured.

Additionally, New York Beta has been prompt in submitting monthly reports to general headquarters, in an effort to be awarded with the general headquarters trophy. Hopefully, in the next *Dutchman Phi*, the entire executive board will be able to brag about the new award.

Matt Seckler, Treasurer

Alumni Send Us Their News

RICHARD W. LENT '44 has moved to 3303 Devonshire Way, Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33418. Dick writes, "Bobbie and I have moved to this retirement community. After being here for a few months, we still haven't found anything to dislike. We will summer in Cape Cod, Massachusetts; otherwise you can find us here." Send Dick e-mail at letrw@worldnet.att.net.

ARMAND O. BUSINO '50 lives at 1642 Womack Rd., Dunwoody, GA 30338. Armand write, "I'm glad to see the house will continue to operate outside of the college's housing program. Many of us remember the house as it used to be, and for the chapter to move would have been the end of an era."

JAMES L. COURTER '50 resides at 3410 Eastpines Way, Snellville, GA 30039. Keep in touch with James by e-mail at elliecourter@compuserve.com.

ELWYN V. HARP '53 lives at 184 Wood Pond Rd., West Hartford, CT 06107. Send Elwyn e-mail at elharp1@aol.com.

BARY M. BYRON '53 lives at 9607 Dublin Lane, Mentor, OH 44060. You can send him e-mail at b.byronlaw@aol.com.

H. LEIGH FRYE '68 lives at 1665 Barringer Rd., Ilion, NY 13357. He writes, "I am still teaching chemistry and physics to high school students. I'm jealous of those of you who have retired! I'm looking forward to seeing PAUL BOOR, KEN OLSEN, and DAVE WORELL, et. al., at the 2003 reunion." Keep in touch with Leigh by e-mail at hlnfraye@borg.com.

KEN OLSEN '68 lives at 16 Ferson Rd., Hanover, NH 03755. Ken writes, "I hired a dentist to join me in practice six years ago, and only found out later that he was a Phi! (Allegheny '71) We have since become partners (as dentists, of course) and have named the company that owns our office 'ReallPhi'. Best of luck to you all." Send Ken e-mail at olsenken@aol.com.

JOHN J. O'KANE '69 lives at 61 South Ave., Brockport, NY 14420. John writes, "I'm ecstatic to hear that the chapter house will be ours for the foreseeable future. My best wishes to all." You can send John e-mail at johnokane@aol.com.

ARTHUR C. BASS '71 has moved to 715 State St., Sedro Woolley, WA 98284.

PETER M. PETTIT '79 lives at 94 Wilkins Ave., Albany, NY 12205. Peter works at the Department of Environmental Conservation in Albany, New York. You can send him e-mail at pmpettit@gw.dec.state.ny.us.

CHRISTOPHER SULLIVAN '84 resides at 94 Hopewell Woods Rd., Redding, CT 06896. Send Christopher e-mail at csull2@optonline.net.

PETER C. CONWAY '80 has moved. He now receives mail at P.O. Box 2904, Acton, MA 01720. Peter has left Microsoft to become vice president of software product management at EMC² Corp. in Hopkinton, Massachusetts. Feel free to communicate with him by e-mail at pconway@hotmail.com.

ALLAN L. MARKUS '86 lives at 8230 E. Lippizan Trail, Scottsdale, AZ 85258. Allan is the medical director at Mercy Health Care Center at St. Joseph's Hospital in Phoenix, Arizona. Allan writes, "I'm very happy to hear the news about the house. Although we are separated by a distance, it is always good to read *The Dutchman Phi*." Keep in touch with Allan by e-mail at allan@markus.net.

JOHN P. DELISIO '87 has moved to 3026 Birkdale Ct., Harrisonburg, VA 22801. E-mail John at ldelisio@finitewisdom.com.

JON F. LUCAS '96 lives at 1366 Pinnacle Lane, Charleston, SC 29412. Send Jon e-mail at lucasjf@charleston.net.

JONATHAN GASTHALTER '99 lives at 310 Lexington Ave., Apt. 12G, New York, NY 10016. You can send Jonathan e-mail at prjag24@hotmail.com.

DECEASED

*We regret to report
the death of :*

RICHARD W. FORSE '42

We'd Like To Hear From You!

The success of this newsletter depends, in part, on the participation of our alumni. Please take a moment to fill out your newsform and return it to the address on page two. Include your latest news, news of brothers with whom you've kept in touch, and maybe also one or two of your fondest memories of New York Beta or thoughts on what Phi Delt means to you. We'll look forward to sharing your news in the next issue of *The Dutchman Phi*.