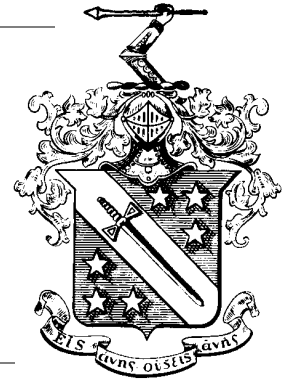


the dutchman phi

NEW YORK BETA CHAPTER
OF PHI DELTA THETA
AT UNION COLLEGE



SCHENECTADY, NEW YORK

SPRING 2002

NY BETA STAYS OUT OF THE NEW UNION HOUSING PROGRAM

WELCOME TO THIS ISSUE...

With a sigh of relief I am pleased to report that NY Beta is officially not going to be part of the new housing initiative at Union College. Yes, this means that we are staying in our house on the 50-yard line! Now what do we do? After several discussions with the college administration, it appears that we will be here for another 10 years until our lease expires on August 12, 2012.

There are several capital improvement projects being proposed by both alumni and active brothers. Some of these include structural issues on the first and third floors, the first- and third-floor bathrooms, the first-floor windows, and the ceilings in the living and pool rooms. We are now trying to prioritize these projects and decide what we should proceed with. Of course, there are money issues when it comes down to doing house improvements.

We currently have around \$12,000

saved in our capital reserve account. This will help but is not enough to complete all of the projects that we have on our plate. The house corporation is asking for your support. There are many ways of helping, and, yes, donating money is one of them. Alumni can also offer their services. If any alumni work in fields associated with engineering, construction, plumbing, or general contracting, we would love for you to help us out! Please get in touch with me to offer your assistance. Even though we are separated by distance, the support of our alumni nationwide is needed.

Eugene Schultz '00 will be joining the house corporation as the new director of capital fund raising. In this position he will take on the difficult task of raising money for our capital reserve account. This account is used for house improvements and will also be used when our

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I hope you had a healthy and a happy winter and are enjoying the transition into spring and summer. Lots of exciting things are going on here at New York Beta, and we hope you will find this issue of *The Dutchman Phi* informative and entertaining.

In this newsletter, you will find an update from our new vice president, Eric Destefano, along with articles from John Vandervoort, our house treasurer, and David Gondrez, the house manager. As always, we are looking for ways to improve the house. We have redone the pool room, as well as the basement, and the house is looking very good. We are about to begin a new rush and pledge period for sophomores, and we expect to have a large pledge class of phikeias.

The New York Beta is currently in great shape. For those who have not heard, we are keeping our house (1175 Lenox Road) for at least a few more years. Union's President Roger Hull has taken us out of the Plan for Union, and while other fraternities, such as Sig Phi and Chi Psi, are going to lose their houses, we are standing fast. Since we know we will have this beautiful house for a while, we are looking to make improvements, such as redoing the fire escape and the bathrooms. While the brotherhood is currently a nice size (38 active brothers), we still need contributions from our alumni. No amount is too small. No amount is too big, either.

As we go to press, ReUnion Weekend, May 30-June 2, is quickly approaching, and, as always, we are hoping for a large alumni turnout. There will be a lacrosse game, a barbecue, and an alumni house meeting (among other events) for old brothers to reunite, see old friends, and

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BROTHERS WORK HARD AT PHI DELT...



CHECK OUT NY BETA'S WEB SITE AT WWW.PDTUNION.ORG.

BROOMBALL TEAM SCORES THE SILVER

The 2002 broomball season was well contested by all of the teams that competed. In the end, it all came down to one final game between the two best teams in the league, one of which was Phi Delta Theta. Both teams were confident going into the matchup, which came down to a single goal.

Geared up for a fight to the death, both teams arrived at Achilles Rink ready to play some intense broomball. The game started out evenly, and finally our opponents put one in past goalie Ross Mallory. However, the goal was called back when

the ref explained that the net had been knocked off before the goal was scored. Our opponents were awarded a penalty shot, but were stopped by Mallory.

Late in the second half, our opponents broke a scoreless tie on a breakaway. Although they gave a valiant effort, the Phis could not score a goal on this night and lost the game. It was a well-fought contest and a successful season, and the team is looking forward to a rematch in next year's final.

Adam Rosenfeld



Good times continue at NY Beta.

BROTHERS TAKE CHARGE ON CAMPUS

Since its inception one year ago at Union College, the gender awareness group G.E.T. Aware has been one of the most visible and powerful organizations on campus. Most recently, G.E.T. Aware surveyed the entire student body in an attempt to better understand the sexual climate at Union.

Brothers Josh Bock, who serves as president, and Josh Maynard helped found the group and have been closely involved ever since. The raw results of the survey have been tabulated, and some of the data has been made public, sparking a strong desire for change from parts of the student body. By the end of the 2001-2002 academic year, the survey will be analyzed and the results published. For more information on the sexual climate survey, please go to www.union.edu/PUBLIC/WSTPROG/survey.html.

WELCOME...

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meet the incumbent brothers of the New York Beta.

If you have any questions regarding the New York Beta, please do not hesitate to call me at any time at 516/457-0599.

Have a great summer!

Yours in the Bond,
Jeff Silver, #1102
Alumni Secretary

A DYNASTY IN THE MAKING?

"Winning isn't everything, it's the only thing."

— Vince Lombardi

"First is the worst, second is the best..."

— Anonymous

Neither of these two quotes have anything to do with the 2001-'02 Phi Delt intramural basketball season. The team ended the season 0-4. The team argues that it was robbed of all four victories. Widespread rumors of corruption among the referees were heard in the locker room.

Although it did have a winless record, the team remained positive and stayed

the course. Led by a new core of freshman players, the team left the rest of the league with the promise that Phi Delt will be back next year with a vengeance. The team was led by Eric Destefano, Bryce Levin, Matt Seckler, and the ever-flamboyant Rob Yenchman; and this fab four brought toughness and skill to the floor. Credit must also be given to veterans Matt Lallier, David Andrews, Vik Sangha, and Frank Feliciato, who were the backbones of the team.

The team looks forward to next year's competition.

Rob Yenchman

SOMETHING'S COOKIN' AT PHI DELT

After almost a year without a cook, the house is finally eating dinner together again. Thanks to Commissary Jeff Hoffman, who put some major elbow-grease into cleaning and fixing up every inch of our kitchen, the brothers of Phi Delt are once again sharing their evening meal.

Our new cook, Kim, was recruited from the local fire department by Matty Ceballos. Having worked as a cook for the Ground Round, Kim has no problem preparing enough for the usual dinner attendance of 15-20 brothers.

So far, meals have included baked ham, chicken stir-fry, spaghetti and meatballs, ziti with sausage, roast beef, among other dishes. Brothers have enjoyed meals such as Kim's chicken parmesan, but not everything has gone according to plan. A few problems have resulted because of our ancient oven, such as a turkey dinner that wasn't ready until 8:30 p.m., and a meatloaf that was still slightly frozen in the center. We hope to acquire a new or used

oven sometime in the near future so that meals can be prepared more quickly and more thoroughly. Ovens are quite an expensive appliance, so every donation from alumni helps.

Brothers are enjoying having leftovers in the refrigerator and snacks in the cupboard. Bacon, eggs, cereal, milk, and orange juice are just a few of the tasty items available almost all the time.

Jeff Hoffman will retire from a few terms as commissary next term and sophomore Brandon Bernard will take over the BJ's card. Changes he has in mind for next term include the possibility of a food-delivery service such as Sisqo to save trips to the store and ensure that there is always food in the house.

Regardless of the quality of the meals, having dinner at the house is a great chance to socialize and has definitely brought the house closer together. Groups of three brothers perform dinner duties on a two-week rotation, and so far, things have been going well.

HOUSE MANAGER ASSESSES HOUSE CONDITION

As house manager I am responsible for making sure that the house is clean and well kept. I have had the job now for almost a year and have found that it is hard to take care of a problem when the causes of the problem are not addressed. Last year I put in new light fixtures throughout the house (a nice improvement over the exposed bulbs). We also built new benches in the pool room. With their stain, they look amazing and go well with the pool table, which we recently had refelted.

With the national having gone dry, we do not have the collection of cans that we had when we were the party center of Union College. Since I took over, I have bought tools desperately needed by the house. The problem is in keeping them in the house. In years past tools have simply disappeared. I have been keeping most of the things I have in my room (drill, circular saw, horse set, bits, screw drivers, etc.). We needed a supply closet, and the recycling closet was the perfect candidate. Over spring break 2002 I got to work.

The recycling closet was disgusting, to say the least. There was a tiger print molded rug on the floor, and the walls had never been fully drywalled. Over break I took out all of the trash and cleaned the room till it was bare. I redid the whole room with new drywall, painted it, put down a new wood floor, stained it, put in new floor board molding and stained that, installed a nice solid wood door (with a gorgeous cherry wood stain), and installed a deadbolt and standard lock on the door. Only the president and I have keys to the closet. Everyone can use the tools; we just need to know who has what. One brother's response to the room was that "it's the

PHI FOOTSTEPS

As you may have heard, there have been several house improvements going on here at 1175 Lenox Road. Our current financial state has allowed us to be able to fund these improvements. All of the active brothers have been doing a great job keeping up with their dues.

However, this chapter, like any chapter, can't survive without the support of its alumni. Alumni support is very important especially as the end of the chapter house lease nears. While we continue to enjoy our time here, we must think to the future so that many more may follow in our footsteps.

John Vandervoort
Treasurer

nicest room in the house."

We have found out that the school is not taking away our house, and we will be here for a while. I have many plans to improve the house and am talking with the chapter adviser, Phil Boyce, on a regular basis to see what we can get done. Something we desperately need is to have our third-floor bathroom completely redone because of a leak that we have not been able to afford to fix for as long as I have been here. Water drips down to the second floor every time someone takes a shower up there.

We also plan on putting brand-new windows in the first floor. We just had them done maybe five or 10 years ago, but what we bought haven't lasted. I have done research and know the windows that we should get. They will save us 40 percent of our fuel bill because they use Heat Mirror, a material that *Popular Science* has called one of the hundred greatest achievements of the century. Anyone who has been in the house will tell you that in the winter it is as cold as can be down there, and in the summer it is extremely hot.

We also plan on redoing our first-floor bathroom, which is poorly designed. We are going to rip up the vanity and put a standing sink there. The toilet is a residential one, and for the area it is in we need something more commercial. The floor will be stained wood. And to finish it off, we will paint the room and put a nice new solid-wood stained door on it. There are two other closets on the first floor that need to be completely redone just like the recycling closet.

The washer and dryer we have are pretty obsolete from 15 years ago (if they're not older). I am doing research now on the type of dryer we need. There is so much more to do, but these projects give you an idea of some of what needs to be done.



A brother relaxes.

The last big project that was completed gave the old bar room a fresh look. The wood paneling on the walls were restained, the walls were painted white so we could get rid of that basement feeling, and pipes along with the floor were painted a light blue. Windows that had plywood screwed into them now have nice white shades. Alumni who have seen the transformation have commented that "it looks amazing." Just as one does when constructing a new house, we are starting from the bottom up.

For spring term work weekend we are going to hang more drywall and paint the whole interior of the house. It should look really good. The house is going to look great, as you will all see when you come for those surprise visits that we expect.

While we have much to do, we need the funds with which to do the work. Please consider supporting us. We have the best location on campus, and we should have the best house, too. We need your help to make this happen. If you come to the house, you will see all of the improvements that have been made, but there is much more to be done.

Someone once asked me, "What do you do when a Phi is in the gutter?" The answer is nothing because there will never be a Phi in the gutter. We look out for each other. That is what brotherhood is about.

Yours in the Bond,
David Gondrez, #1106

BROTHERHOOD GROWS TO OVER 30 MEMBERS

In a solid year of rushing, the chapter pledged in its second class of the year with six phikeias in April. The brotherhood has not been this strong and proactive in recent history.

I am very proud of the active brothers and their dedication to making NY Beta the best fraternity at Union College and their efforts to be one of the best chapters within Phi Delta Theta. We ask our fellow alumni to help support their hard work by making sure to donate at least the suggested dues this year. Since we restructured the gift program, donations have increased dramatically. Let's keep this trend continuing!

Philip Boyce '96
Chairman
Chapter Advisory Board

OUR ALUMNI REPORT THEIR NEWS FROM FAR AND WIDE

"Greetings, fellow Phis!" writes JAMES L. COURTER '50 (3410 Eastpines Way, Snellville, GA 30039; elliecourter@compuserve.com). "I'm still kicking. I had an opportunity to visit the house with my wife on my 50th at Union." James keeps in touch with ARMAND BUSINO '50.

Greet WILLIAM H. FULTON '52 at 11421 Pembroke Run, Estero, FL 33928; whf-exeast@webtv.net.

Writes BARRY M. BYRON '53, "I'm still practicing municipal law with my son, Stephen. Since January 2001 I have been serving as one of three commissioners for the Lake County, Ohio, Metropolitan Park District." Write him at Interstate Square Bldg. 1, 4230 State Route 306, #240, Willoughby, OH 44094; e-mail: bbyronlaw@aol.com.

DAVID S. LENT '53 reports that he and ELWYN HARP '53 are both serving as trustees of a historical society in New Paltz. Get in touch with Dave at 9 Old Mill Rd., New Paltz, NY 12561; lentds@bestweb.net.

Drop a line to LEE W. MICHALSKY '55 at 153 Pine View Ave., Bardonia, NY 10954; lmichalsky@prodigy.net.

Contact STEVEN V. HANSEN '56 at 04644 Sequanota Dr., Charlevoix, MI 49720; sahansen@unnet.com.

Greet ROBERT M. UTZ '58 at 303 Fourth St., Greenport, NY 11944.

"I was honored to carry the 2002 winter Olympic torch in New York City on December 23," writes ROBERT A. HOFFMAN '60 (534 Parkside Dr., Jericho, NY 11753). "The run was dedicated

HOUSING PROGRAM

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lease expires in 2012. Eugene will be planning social events in different cities—first targeting Boston, New York City, and Washington, DC—so look for our announcements in your area!

Philip Boyce '96
President
House Corporation
www.pdtunion.org

91 Brookside Ave., #2
Jamaica Plain, MA 02130
617/686-7471
phil@pdtunion.org

to my five former students at Jericho High School who lost their lives on September 11. One of those was Richard Fraser, the son of CHUCK FRASER '61, our fraternity brother. Richard had moved from Connecticut to New York to be closer to his son Aidan's doctor. Aidan, 22 months old, suffers from a rare nerve disease, neurofibromatosis. Chuck and his family have established a foundation to help cover his enormous expenses. Any financial assistance you can make will be greatly appreciated (The Aidan C. Fraser Medical and Educational Trust Fund, c/o The Frasers, 7325 Nassau Point Rd., Cutchogue, NY 11935)."

Reach ALVIN F. DeSIENA '67 at 1016 Watervliet Shaker Rd., Albany, NY 12205.

Pens BRUCE J. NOE '67, "I continue to study art and architecture in the beautiful city of Strasbourg, France, but my favorite activity is the appreciation of fine food." Write him at 4 rue des Pontonniers, 6700 Strasbourg, FRANCE.

The director of pupil services at Batavia City Schools, JOHN J. O'KANE '69 keeps in touch with GATES WHITAKER '69 and resides at 61 South Ave., Brockport, NY 14420 (e-mail: jokane@bataviacsd.org).

STEPHEN B. AMES '72 runs the Tender Loving Care Sitting Service and receives mail at 73 Arrowwood Place, Malta, NY 12020; tlcpss@capital.net.

Greet RICHARD D. JASZCZAK '73 at 121 Fisher Ave., Staten Island, NY 10307; rjaszczak@earthlink.net.

GEORGE R. FUSNER JR. '74 receives correspondence at 9562 In-A-Vale Dr., Brentwood, TN 37027; gfusner@aol.com.

A senior software developer with the Computer Sciences Corporation, ROBERT W. LEIN '78 welcomes mail at 745 Merrow Rd., Apt. #174, Coventry, CT 06238; leinr@earthlink.net.

Write JEFFRY A. BUFFUM '81 at 368 S. Bolton Rd., Bolton, MA 01740; jbuffum@ne.mediaone.net.

"My wife, Anne, daughter, Danielle, and I will be leaving Germany this spring and heading to Lajes Field, the Azores, in Portugal to be the civil engineer squadron commander for the next two years," pens TERRY WATKINS '85 (PSC 9, Box 3471, APO AE 09123; bhfs1@t-online.de).

Writes EDWARD M. KULBACK '90, "I opened up my own practice earlier this year, providing eye exams and contact lenses (732/863-5655). Discount to all Phi Deltas." His home address is 58 Greenwood Dr., Freehold, NJ 07728.

MICHAEL P. JOHNSON '93 resides at 23 Welles Dr., North Newington, CT 06111; mjmets1@aol.com.

"I am a pilot in the 510th fight squadron stationed at Aviano air base in Italy," writes MICHAEL A. NELSON '97 (PSC 103, Box 3755, APO AE 09603; mnelson@gmail.com). "Recently, I was involved in an incident that made headlines when my F-16 broke, and I ejected 60 miles outside of Iraq. What a day. Anyway, since then it has been relatively quiet. I have not been involved yet in Operation Enduring Freedom, but many think we will be involved soon (which I hope it is soon, too). Needless to say, if I do get to go, I will put a message on a bomb from Phi Delta Theta-NY Beta and take a photo."

Greet ALEXANDER J. BEGIN '98 at 615 Hammond St., Apt. #3, Chestnut Hill, MA 02467; alexbegin@earthlink.net.

Write ROBERT DAVIS '98 at 21 Pleasant St., #2, Newton, MA 02459; e-mail: rldavis98@yahoo.com.

Write TODD E. PATTON '01 at 8 Charles Plaza, Apt. #2603, Baltimore, MD 21201; todd.patton@mailexcite.com.

DECEASED

We regret to report the death of the following alumni:

WALTER H. BEERS '31
December 26, 2000
JOHN R. TROTTER '53
October 6, 2001

THE DUTCHMAN PHI

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.