



The Delta Psi Sig

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

March 2010

The Delta Psi Chapter of Sigma Chi will be participating in the upcoming Relay for Life, in support of the American Cancer society! This is the largest group fundraising event on campus, and raises thousands of dollars for cancer research and those who suffer each year. If you would like to donate to our team, you can do so at the following website.

[Sigma Chi Delta Psi RFL](#)

Many thanks for your donations!

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Elections at Sigma Chi

As the Spring Semester continues on, plans for the upcoming semester are beginning to fall into place for the active brothers, and things are beginning to get a bit crazy. Interviews and job offers are coming through after the career fair in February, sports and clubs are beginning to wrap up for the year, the final set of exams before finals is beginning.

Probably most important to the house is elections of new officers, an ongoing process during the spring semester.

We have so far elected 6 of the 7 positions to the Executive Committee, with the final election coming up next week. The brothers are excited to get a chance at executive positions and having a chance to give back to the house.

I am sad to say that this also means that this will be the last newsletter I will be publishing as Alumni Tribune, and a new brother will be taking over the position, so you can look forward to hearing from him in the next

newsletter, as well as him hopefully implementing a few more changes and making the newsletter better than ever. Until then, and even after, please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns. I have had a great time in my term as the Alumni Tribune, and I hope that I've done a satisfactory job (or even a good one).

In Hoc Signo Vincas,
Matthew Karnick '2012
~Alumni Tribune



Sweetheart Formal

yonon, but has just recently changed management so we are happy they decided to welcome us back. Everyone involved had an excellent time and many lasting memories were made, and we like to think the new management liked us as well!

This year's Sweetheart Formal was held at the usual venue of Hanah Mountain Resort in Catskill, NY. This beautiful complex has hosted several Sweetheart Formals in the past and has built up a reputation in the house as the most fun event in the spring semester. The resort was originally owned by the father of one of our recent alumni, Satoshi Ki-

Additionally, this year's Sweetheart of the Delta Psi Chapter was selected and announced at the formal. This year's winner was Diane Michaelson, recognizing her help over the past several years with almost anything related to the house including but not limited to rush, brother

advice, cooking meals for the house, and revitalizing several of the old picture yearbooks. Diane is an R.P.I. graduate student from Williamsville, New York working on her Masters and PhD in Communication and Rhetoric. She is the girlfriend of brother Eric Pulvino, and they have been together for 6 years. We are happy to have Diane as our Sweetheart for 2010, and she is unbelievable happy to have been elected.

In Hoc
Colin Haynes

A Message from the Chapter Adviser

One of the most challenging, and often fun, aspects of being chapter advisor is that of being asked to continually review and comment on chapter operations, especially those which have been in effect for decades. While I have the advantage of age and experience on my side, this can sometimes be a help and sometimes a hindrance (some of my technology skills are outdated and horrible!). Thankfully I am aided in my efforts by the fact that the chapter currently consists of a group of mature, highly intelligent, practical undergraduates who are willing to listen and consider most any idea and, when appropriate, endorse it. Let me tell you about two issues which come to mind from this year where the undergraduate chapter members have shown their maturity, open mindedness and technical skills in making decisions which will have a big impact on chapter operations in the coming years.

The first matter concerns the setting of dues for members not living in the chapter house. As I am sure you all are aware, undergraduate brothers who do not live in the chapter house are still required to pay certain fees to the chapter for things such as dues to the general fraternity, recruitment costs, social program, derby days, etc. The fee has generally been in the range of \$300 to \$500 per semester (this amount is the same cost for these limited items as the brothers who live in the chapter house). This year the chapter president, treasurer and I took a fresh look at this issue and its impact on those members who were living at the chapter house. What we saw was that the costs for the three biggest items in our budget, namely taxes on the chapter house (\$20K per year), liability insurance for the chapter (\$15K per year), and depreciation for chapter goods often used by all members, e.g. TV, washer/dryer, living room furniture, party furniture, etc. (\$19K) was paid solely by those brothers living in. The fact of the matter is that, when one is initiated into Sigma Chi, he must bear an equal share of responsibility for keeping the chapter house and brotherhood viable. This especially includes helping to pay real estate taxes, liability insurance, and depreciation. The way the fees were being calculated, by moving out of the chapter house members could effectively 'opt out' of paying anything at all for the most expensive costs of the chapter. With appropriate data in hand, we presented the analysis to the entire membership at a chapter meeting and recommended that we endorse the practice of requiring that all members pay equally for fixed costs for the chapter that were not directly related to room and board. We explained that endorsement of the proposal would see the fee for brothers choosing to live in dorms or apartments rise by about \$1,300 per semester. I was pleasantly surprised when the chapter, including those living out of the chapter house, quickly came to the same conclusion as the analysis. As a result, we will see the semester fee for non live-in members go up to \$1,600 per semester next year. By shifting some of the fixed costs for operations back to the entire membership, those who live in the chapter house will have more funds to help pay for better food and operations. Such a proposal would never have seen the light of day five years ago.

The second issue I want to mention is the chapter's interest in bringing back a cook to prepare meals for the brothers. As you probably know, when the chapter size dwindled dramatically, it was impossible to find the funding to pay for a cook; instead, brothers were paid a small amount to prepare various meals for the chapter (which is the practice today). After hearing complaints from brothers who are dissatisfied with the quality of some meals, supplemented by stories from some alums who spoke of how well the kitchen ran when the chapter employed a cook, the undergraduate brothers began talking about the possibility of hiring a cook, on at least a part-time basis, for the fall. The alumni board members of the house corporation challenged the undergraduate members to analyze the issue and develop a draft plan for the fall. The undergraduates answered the challenge by doing a significant amount of research, including using material made available by the Grand Trustees of Sigma Chi. The chapter members developed a job description for the proposed cook, came up with information on salaries, agreed on various options for which meals would be prepared by the cook and on what days, and surveyed the membership to see how much the brothers were willing to see their board bills increase if a cook was hired. Based on this work, it is likely we will be hiring a part-time cook for the chapter for the fall. We expect such an initiative will improve the board program and encourage those living outside the chapter house to move back in.

What do these examples illustrate? I believe they provide encouragement about the chapter and where it is headed. We have come a long way over the past six years. The men we have in the chapter now are upstanding gentlemen of excellent character that I am proud to call Sigs. I know I am personally confident in their commitment to our fraternity and I am sure that the future of the chapter will continue to improve as the membership continues to grow.

IHSV,

Bob ;Justa; Eckart, *Chapter Adviser*

Derby Days



Dear Brothers,

Another week of Derby Days has come and gone and, like last year, was another huge success. Our efforts along with aid of four sororities; Alpha Omega Epsilon, Alpha Gamma Delta, Alpha Phi, and Sigma Delta, raised over seven hundred and

fifty dollars for charity. Twenty five percent of these earnings have been given to the choice charity of the winning sorority, Alpha Omega Epsilon. All remaining profits will be given to Sigma Chi's national charity, the Huntsman Cancer Institute. Alumni that are interested in buying a shirt from Derby Days can contact me by email at

isaac.nault@gmail.com. A minimum twenty dollar donation to Sigma Chi which in turn will be donated to the Huntsman Cancer Institute is needed to receive a shirt.

In hoc,

Isaac Nault

Derby Days Chairman

Alumni Clam-Bake

Hello Brothers!

I am happy to inform you about the upcoming Spring Alumni Clam Bake. During the weekend of April 16-18th, we're planning events for all of our alumni and active brothers to get together and have fun. Saturday morning will start off with a few rounds of golf at Frear Park for those who wish to join. It will be a scrambled tournament, with alumni and actives mixed on teams. Starting in the early afternoon we'll be having a grill-out (including plenty of the traditional clams), and a ton of other food. The evening will be topped off with a semi-

formal meal cooked by our own brothers and a small cocktail party to finish things off. We would love if you and your families could join us and we can all get to know each other a bit better.

If you plan on attending please send me an RSVP at karnick.matthew@gmail.com along with the number of people in attendance.

We will be graciously accepting suggested donations of \$25 per person in attendance.

If you wish to participate in the golf tournament, I need to know that at least two weeks prior in order to let the golf course know. The cost

for golf is \$20-25 per person depending on our numbers, and an additional \$15 if you need to rent clubs.

We hope to see you there!

Matthew Karnick 2012

~Alumni Tribune

karnick.matthew@gmail.com



Sigma Chi
spring 2010



(Bottom) Jameson Price, Aaron Squier, Brian Allen, Alex Klafehn
(Top) Nate Pelletier, Justin Luzinas, Phil Maas, Evan Dudla

Pledge Introductions

We are happy to have started out this semester with 8 pledges, thanks to a great rush. As the brotherhood grows, the number of people we know also grows, allowing us to pick more and better people to become members in our fraternity. I am saddened to say that due to financial and scheduling reasons, Evan Dudla had to drop pledging already, but we are still left with 7 great men who are on their way to becoming new members of Sigma Chi.

Jameson Price `2012 Physics and Applied Mathematics (dual major)

Springfield, MO

Youngest of 4, Jameson is the first in his family to pledge to a Greek organization. He was highly active in the Boy Scouts of America, and was a member of the Order of the Arrow, an honor society for the BSA.

Aaron Squier `2013 Computer and Systems Engineering

Santa Monica, CA

Aaron is our second member from California in one year, and was highly active back home. He was a member of the marching band in his high school, and enjoys camping and hiking, as well as cooking. He was also a member of the Ski Club at his high school.



Brian Allen `2012 Mechanical Engineering

Worcester, MA

For those of you who are worried you're seeing things, yes, you have seen Brian Allen before. He pledged in the previous spring class, and dropped due to time and class concerns. It is much to our pleasure that he has always regretted dropping, and is excited to pledge with us again. Brian Allen is one of our local automotive experts, and is interested in anything that has to do with cars. He is a member of the RPI SAE team, and can even change your oil if you need.

Nate Pelletier `2012 Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering

Tiverton, RI

Nate Pelletier graduated forth in his class from Tiverton High School. He is currently a sophomore looking to earn a dual degree in aerospace and mechanical engineering. He is an active participant in the aerospace club, does group research and plays cello in RPI's orchestra. Nate enjoys playing keyboard and spends a lot of time composing music.

Justin Luzinas `2012 Mechanical Engineering

Troy, NY

Justin is a native of the Albany area, having grown up in Latham and going to high school at LaSalle. Justin is a handyman of sorts, having an extensive background in construction and wood working. He also holds a strong interest in cars and puts a lot of time into enhancing his Mustang. Justin also grew up playing hockey and currently plays on a club hockey team, while working at RPI's field house during the school team's league games.

Phil Maas `2013 Electrical Engineering

Allentown, PA

Philip Maas is a graduate of Allentown Central Catholic High School and is a native of Center Valley, PA. On campus he is an officer in the Newman fellowship and the Deputy Grand Knight of the RPI council of the Knights of Columbus. In his spare time he enjoys playing guitar, skiing, and painting/drawing. Philip is also an Eagle Scout and remains involved in his troop back home as an Assistant Scout-master.



The House Corporation recently mailed a flyer asking for you to update your address, and other contact information, and to provide a brief update. In order to have the broadest coverage in preparation for our 60th anniversary reunion in October, we want to ensure that everyone's' contact information is up-to-date. Additionally, the House Corporation will begin publishing a combined alumni and active newsletter, the first issue will be out soon after the Spring semester ends in Troy. They plan to have an alumni notes section similar to the RPI Alumni magazine. The new alumni e-mail box is 58pinewoods@gmail.com.



Sigma Chi ΔΨ

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Upcoming Events

April 2010 - Ranagan Golf Tourney, Beekman Golf Course, Hopewell Junction, New York; Warm-up previous Friday at Lyman GC, Newington, CT

April 16-18 — Alumni Clam Bake at 58 Pinewoods

May 8th— I

June 4-5, 2010 - Belmont Stakes Weekend - Golf Tourney Friday, June 4, Site: TBD; Belmont Stakes Handicapping Championship, Elmont, NY, June 5

August 13-15 or 20-22, 2010 - 4th Annual Alumni-Undergraduate Work-sessions at Delta Psi with Golf Tourney on Friday, August 13/20, 10 am; dinner with undergrads to follow.

September 8-12, 2010—Alfred Karl Arbeiter's (AKA's) ALS Charity Golf Tourney/Wine Tour/Beach Party at Hampton Bays, NY, hosted by the Lambda Iota chapter of Delta Psi Sigma Chi.