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#### The Jordan Standard

A Man of Good Character.....

A Student of Fair Ability......

With Ambitious Purposes......

Congenial Disposition......

Possessed of Good Morals......

Having a High Sense of Honor

And

A Deep Sense of Personal Responsibility.

# The Delta Psi Sig

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

#### Delta Psi a Leader in Recruitment

A few weekends ago, I had the opportunity to travel to our Fraternity's international headquarters in Evanston, Illinois to participate in discussions with Sigma Chi's Ritual Renaissance committee. While in Evanston, I had the rare opportunity to see much of the primary documentation that went into the formulation of early iterations of our Ritual. These records included documents written in our founders' own hands! Of these documents, one in particular stuck out – a telegram sent by founder Daniel William Cooper, upon hearing about the death of Thomas Cowen Bell. With this news, Cooper realized his standing as the last surviving founder, and wrote, "The founders of this Fraternity will soon all live only in memory, but I am truly thankful that the Fraternity itself, founded on high and unchanging principles, will still live on in increasing strength and prosperity under the watchful care of its loving and faithful members."

This quote, a favorite of 62<sup>nd</sup> Grand Consul Doug Carlson, is particularly relevant today as fraternities work to remain relevant in a dynamic collegiate environment. At Delta Psi, we've begun to realize a historic renaissance marked by swelling numbers, increased involvement in leadership roles on campus and in the community, and a major investment in our physical structure at 58 Pinewoods (who could forget?). Most recently, Vincent Kocher '14 led a a successful recruitment culminating in the pinning of a 25 man pledge class, corresponding to a campus-leading 100% bidacceptance rate. As magister Nicholas **Fortune '13** brings this group through the probationary pledge period, it is awe -inspiring to reflect on how we are pass-



Consul Joseph Pumper '13



In Hoc Signo Vinces

#### Delta Psi a Leader in Fall Recruitment (cont.)

ing on a tradition – a tradition that creates solidarity between over 300,000 members spanning multiple generations – a tradition that governs the development of good character and manhood – a tradition that we call our ritual.

Everything that we have today in Sigma Chi has been a result of the hard work of men before us. From the young men throwing down their Deke badges at Miami, to the Phi Epsilon Phi brothers who desired affiliation with a strong international organization, to the recent alumni and actives who committed to solidifying the Delta Psi tradition for years to come; truly, Founder Cooper's prediction has come true, and our fraternity remains in very good hands "under the watchful care of its loving and faithful members."

In Hoc Signo Vinces, Joseph Pumper '13 Consul

#### Fall Recruitment

When Delta Psi started the fall semester, we knew that we had a lot of work ahead of us for the ensuing recruitment period. Going into the semester not living in the chapter house presented many challenges; we did not have a central location for events, nor could we show potential members the structure in which they would live for the next few years. We were unsure of the interest that we would draw with 58 Pinewoods under renovation.



Potential members and Delta Psi Sigs come together to play RPI's signature sport, Pushball

Imagine our surprise when more than 50 interested guys come out to our first event, the "Block Party" at the chapter's apartment on 2 10th Street! More than 70 people were waiting in Freshman Circle for our next big event, "Go-Karting and Five Guys, Burgers, and Fries"! It wasn't long before we realized our biggest difficulty wouldn't be garnering interest in Sigma Chi, but evaluating so many interested students

#### Fall Recruitment (cont.)

against the Jordan Standard. Our "7 Rooms" event continued to impress the potential pledges and made many of them give serious consideration to the prospect of pledging Sigma Chi. 7 Rooms is an event in which we took the 30 attendees in groups around to 7 locations where we described to them the most serious aspects of our chapter. Finally, we held our always-successful Alumni Rush Dinner.

All 25 signed, giving Delta Psi a perfect signing rate that went unmatched The chapter gave bids to 25 upstanding gentlemen. All 25 potential members signed, giving Delta Psi a perfect signing rate that went unmatched by the rest of the Greek community! We couldn't have had such a successful recruitment period without the involvement of the active brothers and the support of all the alumni who came out and showed the potential pledges what Sigma Chi was all about. We easily have one of the strongest pledge classes of any chapter on campus, and we all expect fantastic things from our new pledges.

In Hoc Signo Vinces, Vincent Kocher '14 Recruitment Chairman

#### Alumni Dinner Recap

This semester's alumni rush dinner was a great success! Despite the ongoing renovation of the chapter house, 15 alumni from the classes of 1971 through 2012 attended the dinner. Speakers shared a full range of stories, from Larry Heininger's casual account of past O.B.D.s' duties, to more serious speeches about Sigma Chi's lifelong commitment, to a declaration from one of the pledges that "Sigma Chi serves the best chicken, and I like it!"

After speaking with the prospective members afterwards, it was clear that the dinner had a profound impact on all of them. If any of them were unsure whether or not to pledge Sigma Chi before the rush dinner,



Bob Bedard '75 addresses brothers and potential members

they were certain of their decision afterwards — a statement strongly supported by our perfect signing rate. The alumni rush dinner has continued to be an important event for us here at the Delta Psi chapter. None of this would be possible without the alumni who come back, year after year, to support us. Finally, I would like to thank all of the alumni who came out to the alumni rush dinner this fall!

In Hoc Signo Vinces, Andrew Greenstein '15 Alumni Chairman / Tribune

## September Community Service

On September 16, 2012, Delta Psi honored Sigma Chi's Merlin Olsen Day of Service. Fourteen Delta Psi Sigs assisted at the Saratoga Memorial Palio Race. The race is held in honor of Melanie Merola O'Donnell, and helps fund a scholarship dediated to an outstanding post-graduate student in the field of mental health. The brothers took up positions around the race's route, helping to direct traffic and runners along their respective routes. The organizers were greatly appreciative of the chapter's efforts!

Delta Psi also participated in Alpha Gamma Delta and RSE's Water Wars, raising money to help a local high



Brothers who volunteered at Saratoga Springs

school student who was recently diagnosed with Type I diabetes. Last, but certainly not least, the chapter cosponsored a blood drive on October 2nd with ACACIA. The chapter was able to garner more than 20 blood donors, an effort that earned the appreciation of the Red Cross and the RPI administration!

In Hoc Signo Vinces,

Mack Ott '14
Community Service Chairman

### Campus Spotlight—Red & White



Jay Cady '14, a member of Red & White

Red & White is a student-alumni organization founded in 1995 with goals of interfacing with alumni, preserving RPI traditions, connecting with the student body, and preparing seniors for life after The Institute. As a member of this organization, I have had the opportunity to attend some fantastic events, such as Fenway Park's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary and the 50<sup>th</sup> year reunion dinner.

Recently, I have been working on a committee that holds events to help seniors transition into life after college. The events are widespread, including BBQs, cooking classes, salary negotiation and LinkedIn workshops. Red & White was also busy planning for this Fall's Reunion and Homecoming. We staffed a variety of events including the reunion dinners, "Fanfest", the Curiosity Rover discussion, and the Patroon brunch.

We're looking forward to another great year filled with many Alumni and campus events!

In Hoc Signo Vinces, Jay Cady '14 Pro Consul

## **Upcoming Events**

# Renovation Highlight

Upcoming Delta Psi Chapter, Alumni and Sigma Chi Events

Annual Haunted House: October 31st

Pinewoods Lunch: November 1st

Brotherhood Dodge-ball: November 10th

Leaf Rake: November 11th

Thanksgiving: November 22nd

Last Day of Class: December 9th

More pictures can be found at sigmachi-rpi.org/photos



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The Delta Psi Sig

The Delta Psi Chapter's Monthly Newsletter

Stephen Sobel, Chapter Editor