



# The DELTA PSI SIG

DELTA PSI CHAPTER OF SIGMA CHI FRATERNITY AT RPI

Spring 2014

## BROTHERS UNITE AT 58 PINEWOODS FOR HOUSE DEDICATION AND HOMECOMING

The renovated RPI Sigma Chi chapter house was formally dedicated as the Pomeroy Sigma Chi Chapter House at 58 Pinewoods, Saturday, October 4, 2013. Two formal sessions were held. In the morning session Sigma Chi Grand Consul **Mike Greenberg, Illinois Wesleyan '82**, led the Pomeroy chapter House public ritual dedication with our builder and architect, Troy public officials, and the many neighbors in attendance.

In the afternoon, Institute President Shirley Jackson and major benefactor **Bill Pomeroy '66** cut the blue ribbons gracing the front doors of the 110-year-old front entrance officially opening the Pomeroy Chapter House during RPI's Homecoming weekend.

Many other chapter leaders spoke during the two sessions held on the front-porch-turned-stage, with the audience seated on the front lawn. Cars whizzed by and the rain threatened, but nothing distracted the more than 160 alumni participating in the weekend festivities with undergraduate brothers, dates, wives,



*Alumni on front lawn enjoy the house dedication.*



*Alumni Band*

and sweethearts in attendance, as the crowd of more than 300 overflowed the dinner tent on the east lawn (the former site of the 1972 Arch Love addition). Sigma Chi alumni at the RPI reunion was reported to be 20% of the total alumni in attendance.

The 1960s house band, Oedipus and the Mothers, performed in the new subterranean basement, musical sounds comfortably confined, a major design improvement of the three-story addition connected seamlessly to the original structure. In prior years, the live bands playing in the living room or the Love addition escaped the structures and disturbed the neighborhood. Active brothers, 48 who arrived back at 58 Pinewoods in August after a one-year renovation hiatus, provided alumni and guests tours of their new home.

Pictures, videos and testaments about the fun at Homecoming 2013 can be found at the chapter website, <http://sigmachi-rpi.org/news.php>.

## POMEROY CHAPTER HOUSE EXCEEDS ALL EXPECTATIONS

Greetings, brothers! I hope this newsletter finds you well and that you are able to stay warm during the coldest winter we've experienced in the last couple of decades. For many, it was also the snowiest winter we've had in a while.

The highlight of 2013 for me and all the brothers who were in Troy for August Work Party or the dedication in October was the incredible experience of seeing the new Pomeroy Chapter House, as it exceeded all expectations. Once the excitement of moving into a new house wears off though, there are always those things that stop working or don't work the way you think they should. Those of you who have ever moved into a brand new house can identify with the frustration of dealing with that. With a house as large

and technologically advanced as the Pomeroy Chapter House, the actives and the House Corporation have had our share, from leaky plumbing to malfunctioning thermostats. Fortunately, our general contractor readily responds to all of our phone calls and e-mails and we can count on her to get to the bottom of each issue.

The undergraduates have also had some adjustments to make with the new functionality of the space as conceived by our architect. The House Corporation met with them in Troy during spring pre-semester work sessions to see if together we could work through some of these issues. A joint undergraduate and alumni committee has been formed to resolve the actives' concerns.



*Sandra and Bill Pomeroy '66 and the Pomeroy Anvil.*

### HCB WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

At our Annual Meeting last August, we received reports from the officers of both the Phi Epsilon Phi Corporation and the Pinewoods Educational Foundation and held elections. This year we had six brothers running for four seats on the PEP board. New to the board is **Anubhav "Anu" Srivastava '07**. Returning board members include **Bob "Beo" Bedard '75**, **Jim "RB" Rossetti '79**, and Treasurer **Ken Sobel '12**. Congratulations to these four, and thanks to **Josh Gilbert '09** and **Dan Zuber '10** for standing up to run. If you are interested in the reports, please contact me and I will send you the links as they are posted on our website.

In Hoc,  
**Bill Wurst '71**  
Phi Epsilon Phi Corporation President  
(603) 673-4021  
[bill.wurst@me.com](mailto:bill.wurst@me.com)



Your name will go here!

## CONTINUING ΣXCELLENCE

With the completion of construction and the payment of all of our renovation bills, the capital campaign, *Building Our Bridge to ΣXcellence*, is now complete with the critical exception of the need to collect the remainder of the amounts pledged over time. This is critical to us because we took out a bridge loan through the Sigma Chi Foundation to cover future pledge payments while allowing construction to begin. So please be diligent in keeping to your payment schedules since our loan repayment depends on you!

The renovation of the chapter house was the largest and most visible part of our program and the mission of the Pinewoods Educational Foundation (PEF). That mission is to support and provide educational opportunities to young men at RPI. This includes funding attendance at Sigma Chi program such as Leadership Training Workshop and providing scholarships and developing and hosting our own educational and career-oriented programs for our brothers.

So the other very important part of our fundraising is an element that will continue indefinitely and that is raising contributions for the educational purposes of the PEF. All donations to the PEF are fully eligible for tax deductions since the PEF is a registered 501(c)(3) charitable organization.

We continue to ask all undergraduate initiates to make pledges to the PEF to help pay down the large mortgage and to support ongoing educational activities of the PEF (note that these are all payable over a five-year period after members graduate and get settled into full-time employment). We would also like to ask our alumni brothers to keep the PEF in mind for contributions to support its activities and to consider naming the PEF in your will. What a wonderful legacy to be able to leave!

Fraternally,  
Campaign Chairmen  
**Paul Cosgrave '72**  
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**Jim Manocchi '75**  
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## House Renovations Allow Jim Manocchi '75 to Reconnect with Delta Psi

Twelve years ago, **Jim Manocchi '75** brought his freshman daughter, Amy, to RPI; and he saw the opportunity to resume involvement with Delta Psi again. The chapter was having difficulties and brothers from Jim's era were also beginning to reconnect with the chapter. "We were at points in our lives when we had more available and discretionary time and income that we could invest in the chapter to help ensure its continued success," says Jim. "A lot of the early connections were around summer work parties and off-campus alumni gatherings in Maine and Florida, where many of us realized how much we enjoyed each other."



In 2009, Jim's son, **Alex '12**, enrolled at RPI and pledged Delta Psi, so Jim's reasons to reconnect with the chapter continued to grow. "I had lot of reasons and opportunity to be at RPI and the chapter house, and so agreeing to lead the Options Development Committee to figure out what to do with the aging house, and then the fundraising campaign, was natural," shares Jim. "When Alex pledged and was initiated, it turned into a family affair. Little did I realize what I was getting in to!"

One of the most difficult times of the entire house renovation process was the day Jim met with the PEP board in Troy at the Heffner Alumni House to decide what to do about investing more in the chapter house. "We asked ourselves, do we try to raise the larger amount of money and get a big mortgage and build the house we really want, knowing that it was a stretch? Do we go more modest and save \$1 million? Or do we drop the whole idea as too risky given all of the Institute and social pressure," shares Jim. "It was tough, but we gathered our courage and decided to go for what we really wanted the house to be and never looked back."

Jim reflects on his last five years with the construction and fundraising committees and says it took more time than he realized—but it was rewarding work because he had so much fun reconnecting with his brothers and spending time with his son while feeling like he was giving back to the chapter. To alumni who have considered volunteering but haven't yet, Jim says there are always reasons to delay but those often become reasons to never get involved. "I'm sorry that I was away for so long. We all have great memories and experiences that shaped our lives and we want to pass them on to others. Do it while you can; you will get so much more than you put in!"

"I would like to think that with all of the strong alumni involvement, the Educational Foundation, and a newly renovated house, the chapter is well positioned to remain a leader on campus. I hope that the actives seize this opportunity and make the most of it for themselves and that they follow the example of all the alumni that made this possible and make it even better for those who come after them," says Jim.

"I like a challenge, and this was a big one, but it turned into a great opportunity to connect and give back!" says Jim. "Having said that, I do believe that this will be the last fraternity house that I try to build. My big brother, **Bob Jones '73**, had a leading role in the construction of the 1971 addition, I worked on this one, but I will leave it to Alex to lead the next one!"



## CHAPTER EXCELS IN ACADEMICS, COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT, AND ALUMNI RELATIONS

I am writing you all from our beautiful, mostly new Pomeroy Chapter House. While working on the application for the 5 Star Awards (RPI's student organizations awards system), I have been reviewing the progress of our fraternity in 2013. This past year has made me extremely proud to be a Sigma Chi. Our chapter's accomplishments in academics, community involvement, and alumni relations are truly astounding.

### Academic Performance Remains on Top

Under the guidance of Scholarship Chairman **Cameron Molloy '15**, this fall semester our chapter maintained our high levels of academic excellence. The chapter's GPA, 3.16, was just slightly below the record high that was set in spring 2013. We have remained above the all-Greek GPA and the all-campus GPA. We have made great strides to improve our GPA over the past few years and hopefully the trend will continue through this spring.

### Haunted House Raises Money for Cancer Research

Our chapter has been involved in many aspects of the RPI and Troy communities. We once again hosted our Pinewoods Scholarship dinner. We visited with many of our professors, getting to know the RPI faculty outside of the classroom. We also returned our annual Haunted House to 58 Pinewoods. For hours straight, we had a continuous line of guests, young and old, coming to be scared by our brothers. In about four hours, we raised more than \$400 for the Huntsman Cancer Institute. Sigma Chi remains extremely connected to the community around us.

### Homecoming Highlight

Even with everything that we have done, the highlight of the semester most definitely was the house dedication. Twenty percent of the alumni who returned to RPI for Homecoming that weekend were Sigma Chi. RPI Grand Consul Michael Greenberg remarked, "After spending the weekend at Delta Psi, I walked away with a sense of warmth and satisfaction that this truly is what Sigma Chi is supposed to be. A chapter that had strong alumni mentorship and leadership, and undergraduates with a thirst for knowledge to become more, do more, and grow more." It was humbling to see the true scope of our organization, meeting alumni who walked the halls of 58 Pinewoods more than 60 years ago.

With elections starting at our first chapter meeting this semester, my term is wrapping up. After looking at the quality of the men running to replace me and of the 15 new members from this past semester, I have no worries about the future of the Delta Psi Chapter. We continue to be involved in campus leadership with **Chris Higley '16** as a vice president on the InterFraternity Council and **Chuck Carletta '14** as the outgoing GM. Our GPA continues to excel over our peers and, importantly, our brotherhood remains as tightly knit as when our chapter was half the size it is now.

In Hoc,

**Joe Karpie '14**, Outgoing Consul  
(585) 402-8945 • [jkarpie@gmail.com](mailto:jkarpie@gmail.com)

## Contratulations, New Initiates



*Welcoming 15 new initiates, the Roll Book now totals 1,002 Brothers at the Delta Psi Chapter of Sigma Chi. To see a full listing of their names go to [www.sigmachi-rpi.org](http://www.sigmachi-rpi.org).*

## Paul Cosgrave '72 Receives Demars Award at Alumni Celebration

Congratulations to the winners of the 2013 RAA Awards! These men were recognized for their outstanding service and commitment to Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, their contributions to their professions, their communities, and the world. Recipients were recognized at the annual RAA Awards dinner on October 3, 2013, as part of RPI's Reunion and Homecoming weekend. **Paul Cosgrave '72**, former Rensselaer Alumni Association president, received the Demars Award for volunteer service.



*Paul Cosgrave '72 (left) during the 2013 Awards ceremonies.*

## Pinewoods Educational Foundation Plans Scholarship Increases

With the Pinewoods Educational Foundation (PEF) having successfully completed the *Building Our Bridge to ΣXcellence*, we are now focused on its educational mission and increasing the size and number of scholarships that can be awarded on an annual basis. The cost of attending RPI now exceeds \$60,000 per year. Currently, the PEF awards two to four scholarships annually and are averaging approximately \$1,000 a scholarship. The cash for these scholarships is based almost exclusively on a generous gift from **Arch Love '42** and is managed in an endowed fund by the Sigma Chi Foundation.

Arch's original intent was to award scholarships annually to leaders in the fraternity who have maintained a strong academic record and have demonstrated a strong commitment to the fraternity and charitable activities. There is an annual application process where the active member can explain his qualifications. The number of applications has been less than expected recently, as the number and amounts of the scholarship need to be expanded to encourage more applicants. Scholarships winners were announced at the Pinewoods Scholarship Dinner on March 5. The 2014 dinner was held at the Pomeroy Chapter House and will include invited RPI faculty.

In order to expand the amount of funds available for the scholarships, the PEF will be conducting a campaign later this year. To encourage more active interest in the scholarship program, the PEF is considering requiring that the chapter maintain an overall GPA that exceeds the all-men's or all-Greek GPAs before any scholarships are awarded. If you have any opinions on this and would like to contribute, please contact me.

In Hoc,  
**Paul Cosgrave '72**  
PEF President  
cosgravep@aol.com

## Thank You for Your Continued Interest in the *Building Our Bridge to ΣXcellence* Campaign

Thank you to the brothers who continue to show their support to Delta Psi and its capital campaign. A recent donation was received by **Clarence Quillin '54**. We will always be grateful to our loyal donors. Thank you.



# The DELTA PSI SIG

## Sigma Chi House Corporation

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Averill Park, NY 12018

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## SAVE THE DATE FOR 2014 EVENTS

Spring Initiation  
April 5  
Contact **Frank LoPinto '15** at  
vindrsverd@gmail.com

Delta Psi Alumni Golf  
Tournament in Mission Viejo/  
Newport Beach, California,  
with overnight in San Diego.  
May 14-18

42nd Annual Delta Psi  
Belmont Stakes  
June 7  
Golf Tournament at Troy  
Country Club  
August 15 at 10 a.m.

Alumni-Undergraduate  
Work Sessions  
August 16 and 17  
Contact **Thom Kouletsis '76**  
at tkouletsis@comcast.net

Delta Psi Alumni Mid-  
Summer Golf Tournament  
Dates and location to  
be determined

Alumni Dinner  
September 13

ΣX

Homecoming  
October 11  
Classes of 1949 (65 years),  
1954 (60 years), 1959 (55  
years), 1964 (50 years), 1969  
(45 years), 1974 (40 years),  
1979 (35 years), 1984 (30  
years), 1989 (25 years), 1994  
(20 years), 1999 (15 years)  
and 2004 (10 years)

For more information regard-  
ing events without a contact  
listed, please contact **Bob**  
"Ruff" **Hutnick '71** at  
bobhutnick@gmail.com.

## IN MEMORY

**Wayne Green '44**, probably the oldest living PEP brother, but never a Sigma Chi, passed away September 13, 2013, at age 91. He had a ham radio transceiver set up in the basement while he was living in the house.

He was quite the entrepreneur, inventor, and publisher of *Byte* magazine and also somewhat eccentric. Perhaps Ted Leach, a former publisher of the *Monadnock Ledger* who used to have

lunch with Wayne about once a month, said it best. "Wayne saw the world through his own lens," shared Ted. "Some of it made a lot of sense. Some of it made sense to Wayne. He was very curious about lots of things."

To learn more about Wayne, visit [www.waynegreen.com](http://www.waynegreen.com) or [www.edn.com/electronics-blogs/a-ham-s-eye-view/4421325/Wayne-Green-has-left-the-building](http://www.edn.com/electronics-blogs/a-ham-s-eye-view/4421325/Wayne-Green-has-left-the-building).