



The DELTA PSI SIG

DELTA PSI CHAPTER OF SIGMA CHI FRATERNITY AT RPI

58pinewoods@gmail.com

70 YEARS REUNION ZOOM CALL - REUNION DELAYED TO 2021

Our 2020 anniversary was recognized through a Zoom call hosted by **Bob "Ruff" Hutnick '71**, our reunion coordinator, on the December 2, 2020, anniversary date. More than 45 brothers attended. The 70 Years Reunion Celebration as Delta Psi of Sigma Chi (100 years of Phi Epsilon Phi) was delayed to 2021 because of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

Discussions are underway for the reunion to be held during fall Homecoming 2021. Ruff (**bobhutnick@gmail.com**) is looking for help and input on the planning and events schedule for 2021. Watch for email messages for future updates.

Actives Update

Led by Alumni Tribune **Brandyn Sigouin '22**, Consul **Issac Favata '21**, and other officers of Delta Psi, a Zoom call was held on November 18, 2020, attended by more than 30 brothers. Eighteen brothers are living at the Pomeroy Chapter House this semester, following COVID-19 safety protocols that exceed the school's requirements and have become a prototype for other Sig chapters in the area. Chef Mike is back preparing meals and is the only person allowed in the kitchen. All meals use disposable serving plates, glasses, and utensils. "We made it through the semester with zero positive COVID-19 cases," Favata said. "This demonstrates the success in the execution our chapter house reopening plan."

All sophomores were required to participate remotely during the fall 2020 semester. In-person academic instruction for the fall semester ended Friday, November 20, 2020. The rest of the fall semester will be conducted remotely. The first day of spring 2021 semester will be January 19, 2021, and in-person academic instructions will begin February 1, 2021. All juniors are required to participate remotely during the spring 2021 semester.

Community service has also been at the forefront for the chapter, with a successful neighborhood leaf rake and volunteering to assist the family of a popular local business called Moxie's. The chapter remains under a two-year suspension. "We, the Delta Psi actives, are thankful for the continuous support and communication from our alumni as we continue to navigate COVID-19 and our relationship with the university," Sigouin said. Look for more Zoom call invitations sent via the alumni email.

Pinewoods Educational Foundation Report

Despite many past years of success, we feel it is important to be forthright about the challenges that Pinewoods Educational Foundation (PEF) faces in the years ahead. We have seen two extraordinary events come to pass in the last year: the two-year suspension of the active chapter and the COVID-19 pandemic. The impact has been immediate.

As a result of the suspension, the size of the chapter has declined, resulting in fewer members applying to live at the Pomeroy Chapter House at 58 Pinewoods. The reduction of live-in brothers has been further compounded by COVID-19. Due to the risk of public transportation and the potential for an outbreak at RPI, several brothers opted to study remotely from their hometowns.

As a result, only 17 brothers occupied the chapter house during the fall 2020 semester. We are grateful for their work to ensure the safety of the chapter. In collaboration with Phi Epsilon Phi, they created the strongest COVID-19 health guidelines in the province and have thus far avoided an outbreak. However, the house is holding less than half its normal occupancy of just over 42 men. Rental income for the fall was down more than 50% year-over-year. We expect the income shortfall to continue through the

remainder of the suspension and the end of the pandemic. Only then can the numbers begin to improve. It could take years to fully recover.

In light of present circumstances, PEF's top priority is to protect our ownership of 58 Pinewoods. Despite severely diminished income, we must continue to service our \$1.4M mortgage and build the case for a \$1.2M refinancing in 2023. We are working hard to develop a specific plan in the months ahead.

Building back will be a difficult task, and yet, a worthy cause. We have all seen what a strong active-alumni partnership can achieve. It is time to muster that collective enthusiasm once again. Success will require renewed commitment from the active chapter and fresh volunteers from our alumni base. We will solicit your help and participation in the near future.

In hoc,
The Directors of the Pinewoods
Educational Foundation
Larry Mentz '68
Dan Hudson '70
Paul Cosgrave '72
Jim Manocchi '75
Ken Sobel '12

PHI EPSILON PHI HOUSE CORPORATION UPDATE

The Phi Epsilon Phi House Corporation held elections this December. Candidates included **John Pfaff '71**, **Tony Morelli '90**, and **Ken Sobel '12**. They will join present members **Thom Kouletsis '76**, **Jim Rossetti '79**, **Dan Zuber '10**, and **Mike Greenberg '15**. The results of the elections, and other important updates on the status of the Delta Psi Chapter, will be communicated through our chapter email list.

The House Corporation is named for the local fraternity formed in the 1920s before the chapter became Sigma Chi on December 2, 1950.

FINAL GOODBYE

This *Delta Psi Sig* edition is my last after 11 years of newsletters that began with the 2010 Capital Campaign brochure. Most of the editions are still posted on our website. It has been my pleasure to serve you.

In hoc,
Bob “Barney” Shortle ’74



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CHAPTER ETERNAL

Bill Frenz ’60 entered Chapter Eternal on September 25, 2019, in Scotia, N.Y. His obituary is at <https://sigmachirpi.org/2020/11/02/bill-frenz-60-entered-the-chapter-eternal/>



Rich Jensen ’67 entered Chapter Eternal on August 26, 2020. His obituary is at <https://sigmachirpi.org/2020/09/02/rich-jensen-66-enters-chapter-eternal/>



Bob Manning ’69 entered Chapter Eternal at his Adirondack cabin in Mountain View, N.Y. His obituary is posted at <https://sigmachirpi.org/2020/08/08/bob-manning-69-enters-chapter-eternal/>

ALUMNI NOTES

Gary Stottler ’82 celebrated five years on his own as Chief Engineer at Stoller Development in Honeoye Falls, N.Y. Gary uses his experience with Hydrogen Fueling infrastructure and co-chaired the 2020 Council for Hydrogen Safety Conference with Chevron.

Ron DeMara ’10 is engaged to Natalie Marble. Ron is a Senior Software Engineer for Applied Physical Sciences Corp. in Mystic, Conn.

Eric Pulvino ’10 started as Networking Delivery Manager at NVIDIA in Durham, N.C.

Kyle Finer ’13, former steward, is the Director for Food and Beverage at the Sky Meadow Country Club in Nashua, N.H.

Joe Pumper ’13 and wife Melissa moved into their first home in Petaluma, Calif., including backyard grapevines and are now expecting their first child. Congratulations!

Chris Lee ’15 started a new assignment as Senior Services Manager-Risk Modeling at GE Renewable Energy in Schenectady.

George Beall ’19 is an Independent Business Analyst, Data Scientist, and Product Designer in Seattle, Wash.

Andrew Aikens ’20 started as a Software Engineer with Facebook in Seattle, Wash.

Alexander Cope ’20 graduated with his ChemE degree and reported he is working in manufacturing-scale purification of various drug therapies at Ely Lilly at New Brunswick, N.J.

Elijah Hinds ’20 is working for GM in Warren, Mich., as a Design Engineer.

RUFF NOTES

Two first-time ever events, and the second time in the world, were held recently as a

White Rose Ceremony was conducted for **Bob “Rangy Lil” Manning ’69** in August. Brother **Bill “Jolly Green Giant” Pomeroy ’66** provided Rangy’s widow, Alice, with a dozen white roses prior to the ceremony. Among the readers were **Jim “Munger” Banghart ’69** and **Dan “Spurt” Burt ’69**. Other attendees included **Larry “Gremme” Nelson ’69**, **Larry Mentz ’68**, **Dave Carleton ’67**, **Tony Razel ’70**, **C-Ray Allhouse ’70**, **Jim Crambell ’70**, **John “Leroy” Pfaff ’71**, **Bill “Turk” Wurst ’71**, **AlFonse Lubrano ’71**, **Bob “Fubar” Barnes ’71**, **Bill “Kid” Crowe ’71**, **John “Chuck” Golden ’71**, **PJ Cosgrave ’72**, and **Sam Bullard ’72**.

There was a Zoom 70th birthday party for Joann “Sam” Wood, wife of **Gary “Slug” Wood ’71** (Chapter Eternal, 2015). Several Class of 1971 brothers attended this gathering, including former Sweetheart of Sigma Chi **Patty Rist ’71** and her sister, Jane, along with her husband, **Mike Spalding ’70**.

An unofficial Zoom 70th Founding Celebration was held December 2 for Delta Psi Alumni. An official 70th founding will hopefully be held in 2021 or 2022 at 58 Pinewoods, pending the ongoing pandemic. Both **Jim Mitchell ’51** and **Ed Ziemer ’51** were scheduled to say a few words. They were part of the ORIGINAL initiation class on December 2, 1950. Jim’s a SIGNificant Sig. **Bob “Smiley” Boehringer ’55** is also scheduled to be in attendance. Due to Zoom attendance restrictions, the celebration could not be open to all alumni.

Brothers **Bill “Evil” Hanson ’73** and **Brad “Bucky” Harvey ’75**, who live 20 minutes from each other in Maryland, both became grandparents on the same day—August 6, 2020. Grandson Casey Rain Fletcher was born to Brad Harvey’s daughter; Bill Hanson’s granddaughter, Eirini, born to David, his son, and Stephanie. In other NVA/MD news, **Mike Prescott ’78** and wife, Jayne, are leaving the area after almost 30 years. A December exit is planned from NVA. Mike and Jayne, along with Evil and Gail, were regulars at the annual RPI Friday Freak-out Hockey Game televised at a bar in Arlington, Va. **Shaz Majdi ’76** is a regular at the hockey game also! Shaz is still working away at his toy store “One-Two-Kangaroo” in Arlington, Va.

NVA/MD had its Third Annual Golf Tournament in September as **Adam Weltz ’14**

and **Evan Kaiser ’15** joined fellow Sigs **Brad Harvey ’75** and **“Ruff” ’71** at the Worthington Manor Country Club in Frederick, Md.

Ed Youngkin ’74 had a tough summer as his nephew, Conor Semple, son of Ed’s sister Mary Ellen, died suddenly at age 27. Mary Ellen and family were out on vacation with the former wife of **Paul Cosgrave ’72**, Terri Pilla, in the Hamptons, on Long Island, near Ed’s house in East Quogue. Mary Ellen and Terri were regulars at Delta Psi in the mid-1970s as they both attended Siena College, Ruff’s daughter’s alma mater, and brought “tons” of girls over for the VERY appreciative Delta Psi Sigs!

Paul Cosgrave ’72 turned down an offer by Ruff to stage a third golf tourney/wedding in Ponte Verde, Fla., for him and his fiancée Robin Williams. They planned a world adventure and marriage in New Zealand, but had to cancel plans due to the pandemic.

Other notable 2020 grandparents include **Alan “HJ” Hanbury ’74**: Colton, born September 2019, and **Chuck Shuey ’75**, with two granddaughters born in September and October 2019. HJ is semi-retired from his Home Remodeling business but still doing some work and volunteer stuff. I think **Bobby Barnes ’71** is a new grandfather too, among many others.

Tom “Hobie” Hey ’72 has finally planted roots in Asheville, N.C. Asheville claims to be beer capital of the world with the most number of breweries, including the micro ones. **Jack “Tittie” Belletate ’70** bought a winter house in South Carolina (location not revealed to Ruff) and **James “Munger” Banghart ’69** has a place in Southwest Florida. Jack is still flying his plane!

Stay in Touch



Email membership@deltapsisigs.org to join the Alumni Discussions email group.



DELTA PSI WEBSITE
sigmachirpidotorg.wordpress.com/news



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