

Alumni Corporation Officers

President

Tom Dagenais '99

tjdag99@yahoo.co

H: 608-271-2071

Vice President

Patrick Cox '01

Patrick.Cox@motorola.com

Treasurer

Andrew Hill '88

HillA@ci.beloit.wi.us

H: 815-389-9697

Secretary

Nick McDonnell

nmcdonnell@yahoo.com

Alumni Relations

Howard Altman '00

haltman@birinc.com

Martin Neumann '99

mneumann@uiuc.edu

Delta Chapter of Sigma Phi Delta Fraternity

December 2005

Delta Dispatch

www.spdillini.org

University of Illinois, Champaign, Illinois



From the Alumni President Positive Changes Taking Place

Greetings, brothers. I hope the holiday season finds everyone in good health and good spirits! Recently, I was elected to the board of trustees of Sigma Phi Delta National. My holding this position will give the Delta Chapter a stronger voice on the national level while not being so taxing as to take away from my duties as Delta Chapter alumni president.

Speaking of the Delta alumni, we have been making some positive changes recently, and we are looking forward to the results. In September we began a new year of donations through our alumni relations partner, Affinity Connection. Last year Affinity assisted us in gathering \$8,032 from 69 alumni brothers, for an average donation of \$116 each. These generous brothers have helped set the Delta Alumni Corporation

on much firmer financial footing, and we hope our membership will continue to show their appreciation for the fraternity in the coming months and years.

We were glad to see such a great turnout at homecoming and hope that some of those faces and more will join us for our January meeting and for alumni work weekend in the spring. In January we will ratify a new set of house rules to be implemented for summer months, and we will set a date for AWW. Keep watching our Web site at www.spdillini.org for details.

Happy holidays, and I hope to see you soon!

Fraternally,

Tom Dagenais '99

Alumni Adviser's Report

25 Total Living in House, Highest Number in Years

By Nick McDonnell '04

The undergraduates are doing a great job this semester, staying out of trouble and actually doing some good. In addition to making improvements to the chapter house, they assisted Hurricane Katrina victims by volunteering on the weekend of November 5.

There are currently 27 undergraduate members, with 20 of them living in the house. There are 13 pledges this semester, with four of them living in the house. We also have one alumnus living in the house. That brings the total to 25 in-house — the highest it has been in over five years!

Overall, none of the pledges have broken any bones yet, so the semester's going pretty well.

Vice President's Report

Much Thanks to Brother Reichart

Over this past summer, some major work was done on the house by undergraduate brother **Shae Reichart** and his parents. The first project they completed was building an additional room on the third floor, utilizing some unused dorm space. They then tackled the job of repainting the foyer and repairing the front steps to enhance the look of the entrance of our house. I hope everyone at homecoming had a chance to see all the hard work brother Reichart and his parents

did, and I would like to extend a big "Thank you!" to them on behalf of the alumni association.

As many of you know, we are in the process of obtaining quotes for installing a sprinkler system in the house in order to comply with the city of Champaign's recent mandate. We will have a presentation of quotes and information at the January alumni meeting.

Meeting Announcement

The next meeting of the Delta Alumni Association will be Sunday, January 29, 2006, at a location to be determined in the Chicago area. There's no need to worry about missing important sporting events, since the Illini basketball team is off that day and the NFL takes a break between the conference championship games and the Super Bowl.

Business to be discussed will include chapter house improvements and ratifying a set of summer house rules. Please see our Web site for a draft list of the summer house rules to be discussed.

Stay tuned to the monthly e-letters for more details on the time and location.

Homecoming Recap

Much Socializing at Homecoming, Annual Meeting Highly Productive

More than 20 Delta alumni came back to Champaign for homecoming weekend this year, some with their families in tow.

On Friday the undergraduate brothers finished a close second in the float competition. They are determined to reclaim their mastery of the competition next year. After the parade many undergraduates and alumni went out to Murphy's Pub on Green Street to catch up with one another and have a few drinks. This was followed by the usual trip to La Bamba's for burritos and late-night antics at the chapter house. Drunken alumni wearing giant Domino's Pizza costumes never fail to provide excellent entertainment!

On Saturday, longtime house cook Jim Callahan organized a lunch cookout. The undergraduates and alumni ate, drank, talked and watched football until the annual homecoming meeting, which was held at 3:00 p.m. The meeting was quite productive despite the multiple times the group passed motions suspending the normal order of business to allow the showering of various recently engaged alumni by the pledges.

During the meeting the alumni organization voted in favor of fully reimbursing undergraduate brother **Shae Reichart** for his expenses in creating a new three-person room on the third

floor and repairing the front-porch steps. For this work and his other efforts at Delta Chapter and the university, Shae was recognized with the Rev. David E. Vosecky Award by the alumni.

At the meeting a motion was also passed that increased the maintenance and upgrades budget by \$2,000. This was followed by successful motions to reimburse the undergraduate chapter 50 percent for dryer-room improvements and 100 percent for a new, professionally mounted granite sign above the front door.

Other items of discussion included the financial status of the alumni chapter and the building fund, AWW plans, installing a sprinkler system throughout the chapter house and a set of summer rules for keeping the house open outside of the traditional school year. This efficient meeting was over by 4:30, leaving enough time for tailgating before the football game.

Needless to say, the football game was less than exciting for Illini fans. To make up for this, many alumni headed back to the chapter house early to watch the White Sox take game one of the World Series on the big-screen TV. After the baseball game some late-night poker games broke out, and dozens of people stuck around just to socialize.

On Sunday morning the active/alumni football game took place as usual. Happily, there were no injuries to report but, much, much more importantly the alumni won the game 12-0.

The turnout for the weekend was impressive, and everyone seemed to have a good time.



Jim Montalbano '02 and James Lawson '02 hanging out in front of the house during homecoming.



The new granite sign above the front door.

Delta Alumni of Sigma Phi Delta Audit Report from June 17, 2005, Annual Meeting

	2004-05 Budget	Actual	2005-06 Proposed
Income			
Rent: was \$6,450, now \$6,750 + \$2,500	\$51,600.00	\$46,285.00	\$56,500.00
Dues and Donations	\$10,400.00	\$6,532.00	\$7,000.00
Total Income	\$62,000.00	\$52,817.00	\$63,500.00
Expenses			
Insurance	\$13,940.00	\$13,701.93	\$14,000.00
Property Tax	\$7,300.00	\$7,159.95	\$7,500.00
Mortgage: was \$697, now \$754.86	\$8,556.00	\$9,287.70	\$9,058.32
Phone	\$540.00	\$300.39	\$440.00
Pest Control	\$550.00	\$583.70	\$600.00
Gas/Electric	\$13,700.00	\$12,984.68	\$13,900.00
Water	\$1,220.00	\$1,738.87	\$1,800.00
Sewer	\$180.00	\$358.82	\$380.00
A-1 Alarm	\$370.00	\$348.00	\$370.00
Illini Fire Equipment	\$880.00	\$357.20	\$500.00
Housing Inspection		\$0.00	\$100.00
National Dues	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$600.00
Secretary of State	\$24.00	\$20.00	\$24.00
Postage/Printing/Checks	\$40.00	\$25.90	\$40.00
Alumni Work Weekend	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,387.68
Room Improvements	\$500.00	\$153.55	\$1,500.00
Maintenance	\$1,000.00	\$512.21	\$3,000.00
Conference/Meetings	\$800.00	\$0.00	\$800.00
Historian/Plaques	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
Scholarship	\$800.00	\$0.00	\$800.00
Affinity Connection	\$10,000.00	\$6,057.13	\$6,500.00
Total Expenses	\$62,000.00	\$53,590.03	\$63,500.00



Why Should You Support the Annual Fund?

Your support for our alumni chapter's annual fund, which runs from September through August each year, proves your commitment to the future of the Delta Chapter. **Your annual gift is an investment in the fraternity's potential to make a positive impact in the lives of young men as the fraternity did for you, me and so many of our alumni.**

Your contribution affirms your belief that:

- ◆ Sigma Phi Delta still provides the best *leadership development and character building* opportunities on campus;
- ◆ The *spirit of volunteerism* that drives our alumni board and other volunteers is vital to the strength of the organization;
- ◆ The *value of friendships* forged at Sigma Phi Delta grows as time passes and should be celebrated with reunions, annual gatherings and other events that bring alumni back to the place they can always call home.

Alumni contributions to the annual fund make possible *The Delta Dispatch* newsletter, event invitations and other forms of alumni communications.

You can make a donation now by:

- Calling our toll-free donation hotline at 800-975-6699.
- Visiting our Web site at www.spdillini.org.
- By filling out and returning the enclosed form.

Your annual support is crucial to the success of our chapter and our alumni relations program.

Illinois Men's Basketball

It's time for the Fighting Illini, the 2005 NCAA Championship runner-up, to once again take the court! That means it's also time for you to plan a trip back to Illinois to take in a game with your Sigma Phi Delta brothers. And don't forget your camera! You can post pictures from the game in the photo gallery on our Web site at www.spdillini.org.

Can't make it back? Then why not get together with other brothers in your area to watch the games on TV. You can use the directory on our Web site to find other local Sigma Phi Delta alumni.

2005-06 Hoops Schedule

Sat., 12/3/05	Xavier @ United Center, Chicago, 1:00 p.m., ESPN and local
Mon., 12/5/05	Arkansas-Little Rock, Assembly Hall, 7:00 p.m., ESPN and local
Thurs., 12/8/05	Georgetown, Assembly Hall, 8:00 p.m.
Sat., 12/10/05	Oregon @ Portland, Ore., 7:00 p.m., FSN
Sun., 12/18/05	Coppin State, Assembly Hall, 4:00 p.m.
Wed., 12/21/05	Missouri @ St. Louis, Mo., 7:00 p.m., ESPN
Wed., 12/28/05	Southeast Missouri State, Assembly Hall, 7:00 p.m., ESPN and local
Fri., 12/30/05	Tennessee-Martin, Assembly Hall, 7:00 p.m., ESPN and local
Thurs., 1/5/06	Michigan State, Assembly Hall, 8:00 p.m., ESPN2
Sat., 1/7/06	Iowa @ Iowa City, Iowa, 1:00 p.m., ESPN
Sat., 1/14/06	Michigan, Assembly Hall, 3:30 p.m., ESPN and regional
Tues., 1/17/06	Indiana @ Bloomington, Ind., 6:00 p.m., ESPN
Sat., 1/21/06	Northwestern @ Evanston, Ill., 3:30 p.m., ESPN and regional
Wed., 1/25/06	Minnesota, Assembly Hall, 8:00 p.m., ESPN and local
Sat., 1/28/06	Purdue, Assembly Hall, 3:30 p.m., ESPN and regional
Tues., 1/31/06	Wisconsin @ Madison, Wis., 6:00 p.m., ESPN
Sat., 2/4/06	Penn State, Assembly Hall, 8:00 p.m., ESPN and local
Sun., 2/12/06	Ohio State @ Columbus, Ohio, 12:00 p.m., CBS
Wed., 2/15/06	Northwestern, Assembly Hall, 7:00 p.m., ESPN and regional
Sun., 2/19/06	Indiana, Assembly Hall, 2:30 p.m., CBS
Tues., 2/21/06	Michigan @ Ann Arbor, Mich., 6:00 p.m., ESPN
Sat., 2/25/06	Iowa, Assembly Hall, 5:00 p.m., ESPN
Tues., 2/28/06	Minnesota -OR- @ Minneapolis, Minn., 6:00 p.m., ESPN
Wed., 3/1/06	Minnesota -OR- @ Minneapolis, Minn., 7:00 p.m., ESPN and local
Thurs., 3/2/06	Minnesota @ Minneapolis, Minn., 6:00 p.m., ESPN
Sat., 3/4/06	Michigan State @ East Lansing, Mich., 12:00 p.m./1:30 p.m.

Dates, times and television coverage are subject to change. All times are CST.

New Look

Added Features

Major Enhancements to Alumni Web Site!

For many of our alumni members, making frequent trips back to Illinois is not always possible. That's why we urge you to utilize our newly improved alumni Web site at www.spdillini.org. The Web site serves as a place for brothers to come together and share memories, photos and updates about themselves! It also provides chapter news, event details and so much more.

Among the new features are blogging, an organized photo album and an event calendar.

If you haven't logged onto the new site yet, register today to take part in this Sigma Phi Delta e-community!



Alumni Updates

Jerald B. Conroy '53

(218 Brinton Ave., Dixon, IL 61021) I retired from Willett, Hofmann & Associates Consulting Engineers as president in 1997 and stayed on as chairman of the board for five years. I have been married for 51 years and have three children. My two daughters graduated from the University of Illinois in 1977 and 1978. They both belonged to Chi Omega.

Richard Thompson '63

(1869 N. 940 W., Parker City, IN 47368-9128; riston@netdirect.net) I am an adjunct math instructor at Ivy Tech Community College (Indiana) and enjoy activities at the local YMCA, home improvement projects, yard work, my Corvette and my three grandchildren. I retired from Westinghouse/ABB.

Gary Herridge '64

(179 Smitherman Rd., Washington, WV 26181; herridge@illinoisalumni.org) I retired from DuPont in 2001 and am loving it — enjoying five grandchildren, various church activities, doing radio commercials and gentleman farming. God has been good to me.

Robert D. Malinowski '64

(5102 Columbia St., Conway, SC 29526-8606; skiroots@aol.com) I retired from G.E. after 36 years, managing manufacturing operations in Illinois, California, Texas

and Puerto Rico. I have two children: son Chris in Houston, Texas, and daughter Karin in Odessa, Texas. My wife Pat works part time in the golf industry of Myrtle Beach, S.C. I play golf three days per week and do woodworking when I have time. Last year we drove by the chapter house in late June. I was not impressed with the appearance of the property: weeds, trash, junk cars, etc.

Fred D. MacMurdo '68

(24567 Wayman St., Santa Clarita, CA 91321-2610) My wife Judy and I celebrated our 28th anniversary. My daughter Anna graduated from the University of California at San Diego and is engaged to be married. My son J.J. enlisted in the Marine Corps. My best to all the brothers.

Paul Szabo '81

(506 W. Sherman, Bethalto, IL 62010-1638; pszabo@accessus.net) This fall my valedictorian daughter is attending the University of Illinois, majoring in bioengineering. I wish to caution all undergraduate brothers/pledges to keep your grubby little hands off my pride and joy. Seriously!

Tony Wilson '85

(6058 Palladium Ct., Apt. 101, Alexandria, VA 22315; wilson.tonyw@gmail.com) Hey sports fans, I'm retired from the Navy and moving back to the mainland. Several steps are involved including some

time at Mom's and Dad's. They moved from Manito, Ill., to a Tulsa, Okla., suburb (Bixby). Ritsuko and I intend to settle in the D.C. area. I will let folks know. Until then, if there is a get-together of any sort, please send the information to me because it's a lot more possible for me to attend, and I have a lot of catching up to do.

Curt Taras '94

(376 Coventry Cir., Folsom, CA 95630-7960; ctaras@yahoo.com) See the website for a picture of me climbing El Capitan in Yosemite, Calif., on October 23, 2005. That night the White Sox won game two of the World Series, making it the perfect weekend. Write to me if you are in or near Sacramento, Calif.

Patrick Buchana '97

(530 Berkshire Dr., Troy, IL 62294; buchana@charter.net, patrick.buchana@anheuser-busch.com) FYI, Anheuser-Busch is the world's largest brewer and one of the world's largest theme-park operators. The job opportunities and employee benefits are absolutely first class and top notch. We are one of the few companies left today that still "takes care of" its employees. Anheuser-Busch regularly has openings for engineers of various types, usually requiring anywhere from two to five years of experience. Feel free to e-mail me your resume and description of what you might be interested in, and/or call me

if you are seeking employment in St. Louis, Mo. We also regularly have openings at our branch plants. There are 11 other plants across the U.S. besides the main plant in St. Louis. All disciplines of engineering are welcome: mechanical, chemical, biological, civil, electrical, etc. Our 11 branch plants are located in: Williamsburg, Va.; Jacksonville, Fla.; Cartersville, Ga.; Houston, Texas; Newark, N.J.; Merrimack, N.H.; Baldwinsville, N.Y.; Columbus, Ohio; Ft. Collins, Colo.; Los Angeles, Calif.; and Fairfield, Calif. You can also check www.buschjobs.com for postings.

Aurelien Descamps

(43 Route de Wachemy, 59242 Templeuve, France; adesca01@etu.utc.fr) I had an awesome exchange year and am proud to be a Delta. ■

Castle Eternal

Since publication of our last newsletter, we have learned of the death of **James Kovac '43** (4/10/05) and **John H. Shurtleff '50** (12/18/03). Sigma Phi Delta mourns their passing and extends condolences to their families and friends.

Stephen Cobb '50

(550 Mercury Ave., Lompoc, CA 93436;) My strongest memory is of **John Shurtleff '50** playing piano in the house on Illinois Street. It is very sad for me (and for his brother **Will Shurtleff '50**) that John is gone. John often played "Georgia on My Mind." That will always be on my mind.

We Need Your E-Mail Address!

We have the e-mail addresses for about 56 percent of our alumni; however, our goal is 100 percent. Are you among the 44 percent for whom we don't have an e-mail address? Don't miss out on important event notifications and other e-mailed communications! Log onto our Web site at www.spdillini.org to update your record, or send your e-mail address to maura@affinityconnection.com.