

UPCOMING EVENTS

Winter Alumni Meeting
January 30, 2010 @ 11am
The Ram Restaurant, Schaumburg

Alumni Work Weekend
April 23-25, 2010
Delta Chapter House, Champaign

ALUMNI OFFICERS

President
Tom Dagenais '99
tjdag99@yahoo.com

Vice President
Patrick Cox '01

Treasurer
Rick Woods '86

Secretary
Aaron Leppin '00

Alumni Relations
Nick McDonnell '04

Active Relations
Jeff Rizzo '08

ON THE WEB

How to Register at
www.spdillini.org?

Find your Member ID above your name and address on this newsletter, and follow the First Time Login link on the home page for full instructions.



You'll only need this Member ID once, as you'll receive a username and password for future visits.

We keep our site ultra-secure because your privacy is important to us! If you ever have trouble logging in, click on the Tech Support link.

Find Us on Facebook

Become a part of our Facebook group where you can interact with other SPD alumni and actives. Find a link to our Facebook group in the Useful Links section at www.spdillini.org.

Delta Chapter of Sigma Phi Delta Fraternity

December 2009

Delta Dispatch

www.spdillini.org



University of Illinois, Champaign, Illinois

TREASURER'S REPORT

Delta Alumni Corporation and Active Chapter in an Improved Financial Position

Your Continued Support Needed for Ongoing House Improvement Projects

By Rick Woods '86; Treasurer, Delta Alumni Corporation

Thanks to the house re-finance in the summer of 2008, the Delta Alumni are in an improved financial position versus this same period last year. We used the house re-finance to fund the \$54,000 city mandated fire sprinkler project, which was completed fall 2008. But another benefit of the re-fi was a cash-out of the equity built in the existing mortgage by which we were able to net an additional \$10,000 over and above the sprinkler project costs, while at the same time lowering our monthly mortgage payment. As it turns out, our timing could not have been better because the financial meltdown started mere weeks later and would have made it extremely difficult, if not impossible, for us to get a loan with an acceptable interest rate.

We finished the last fiscal year (which ended in May) \$4,000 short of our income goal, but this was more than offset by under-spending our expense and capital budgets by \$9,500. Heading into the new fiscal and school years, we and the active chapter are very optimistic about the future. The house headcount has improved 50% in the past year and the house leadership is making noticeable improvements in financial and planning including holding to a debt repayment plan while keeping up with rent.

Show Your Support for our Future House Improvements

This is not say that there aren't challenges ahead. We are only two months into the school year, and we have already spent half of our maintenance and capital budgets on new first floor tile flooring, replacing the fire alarm panel due to a lightning strike, replacing the commissar room freezer and having to install hard-wired smoke detectors in every room due to a new city mandate.

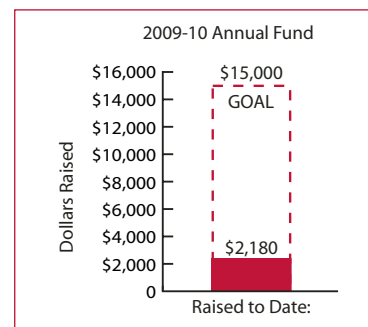
We will have to stretch the remaining \$10,000 in the budget to replace the entryway exterior door, replace the stove fire suppression system (another state and city mandate – notice a trend here?) and fund I-Week and Alumni Work Weekend maintenance expenses. We also are strongly considering replacing the kitchen stove at the same time we replace the stove fire suppression system. **PLEASE, CONSIDER MAKING A GENEROUS DONATION TO DELTA ALUMNI TO HELP US WITH THESE IMPORTANT PROJECTS!**

There are three ways to make a contribution:

1. Online at www.spdillini.org.
2. By calling 800-975-6699.
3. By mailing a check payable to "Delta Alumni Corporation" to:

Sigma Phi Delta
University of Illinois
Alumni Relations Processing Center
P.O. Box 7007
Albert Lea, MN 56007-8007

By the way, does anyone know when the stove was purchased? It's the same stove as when I entered the house in 1982. If you know the answer to this "burning" question, please contact me at woodsclan4@verizon.net.



Notice of Proposed Changes to the Alumni By-Laws

As discussed at the Homecoming Alumni meeting, our By-Laws are due for an update. The By-Laws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the voting members of the corporation (those who have contributed financially this year). Also, according to our By-Laws, failure to return a response within 20 days will be counted as an affirmative vote, so please **consider these proposed changes carefully and let us know via mail if you disagree with the changes.**

To see a copy of the current By-Laws, log in to our website (www.spdillini.org) and click on the "Download Center" link on the left-hand side. Then click on "By-Laws" and download the file named "By-Laws for Delta Alumni of Sigma Phi Delta, Inc."

Change 1 – Article 12, Section 1

This proposed change would allow for electronic ballots (i.e. e-mail ballots). The allowed time to respond to an electronic ballot would be 15 days as opposed to 20 days for traditional mail. This section would be amended by adding the following sentence to the end of the section:

Where a ballot is submitted electronically, failure to return a response within 15 days will cause said ballot to be counted as an affirmative vote.

Change 2 – Article 10, Section 4

Currently, the voting membership of the corporation must approve any expenditure from the Building Fund, and any use other than those specifically detailed in Article

10, Section 1 (OBJECTIVE) will take the form of a definite term loan. This proposed change would allow the Officers of the Corporation (rather than the voting membership as a whole) to authorize withdrawals from the Building Fund by a majority vote. This section would be amended by replacing the first sentence with the following:

The Officers of the Corporation shall have authority to authorize withdrawals from the Delta Building Fund for any purpose whatsoever.

Please return an "aye" or "nay" vote on Proposed Change 1 and Proposed Change 2 to: Tom Dagenais, 4934 Raymond Rd., Madison, WI 53711

ALUMNI IN THE NEWS

Jeff Leesman '03 Goes Green for a Living

Delta alum **Jeff Leesman** (GE '03) has spent the last several years greening buildings in the Chicago area. Leesman is an electrical engineer and project manager with KJWW Engineering Consultants in Naperville, IL. He is an Illinois licensed Professional Engineer and is a LEED® Accredited Professional who specializes in sustainable building design for the healthcare, education, and government markets. He has recently completed two award-winning green building projects in suburban Chicago. Here are some of the highlights:

College of DuPage – Technical Education Center - Glen Ellyn, IL

This \$50 million, 200,000 square foot building is the home of the College's technology-based programs including: Automotive, Welding, Manufacturing, HVAC/R, Construction, Horticulture, Electronics, Architecture, and Interior Design. The building was already engineering-intensive due to the technical programs it houses, but Leesman's team added another layer of complexity by designing with sustainability in mind. "We designed a 3 megawatt substation in the building based on worst case electric usage, but our true goal was for the building to never need that capacity." This goal was achieved, and the building is pending Silver



Front of the Hubble Middle School looking west: classroom wing at left, "bridge" with library on top level at center, main entry at right.

certification under the LEED® New Construction rating system.

Wheaton-Warrenville CUSD 200 – Hubble Middle School – Warrenville, IL

This \$40 million, 190,000 square foot facility replaced the school's former building that dated to the 1920s. "The school district was spending thousands of dollars a day in energy costs at the old building. The new building will allow that money to go towards education instead of literally throwing it out the window due to energy inefficiency." The building is pending Gold certification under the LEED® for Schools rating system, and will be one of the first middle schools in the country to receive that honor. Lighting accounts for much of the electricity use in schools, so it was a primary target for

Leesman's team. Lights throughout the building and in the parking lots are controlled by occupancy sensors to turn lights on only when people are present. Light fixtures near windows have photosensors to dim or shutoff lights in response to available daylight. Exterior lights on the school's expansive site can be controlled via the web so the school can turn them on only when needed – a practice which saves money and satisfies the school's neighbors.

A former Chief Engineer of Delta Chapter, Leesman credits Sigma Phi Delta with helping to pave the way to a successful professional career. "My U of I education gave me technical expertise and problem solving skills, but my Sigma Phi Delta experience allowed me to put those skills to work. Running the Chapter was no different than running a business. SPD taught me about leadership, teamwork, and how to think on my feet."

Jeff can be contacted at leesmanjm@kjww.com.

Read the full story and see more photos at www.spdillini.org!

ALUMNI UPDATES

Glen Ziemann '55

(1707 Lathrop Ave., Racine, WI 53405; gziemann@wi.rr.com) Nothing new here, just enjoying my retirement of nearly 20 years.

Ray Kralley '57

(1640 West Placita Abreojos, Sahuarita, AZ 85629; rjkralley@aol.com) Still here, not traveling as much as we used to. I'm extending an open invitation to any brothers who would like to visit Arizona...I'd love to show you around this area.

H.C. Edfors '57

(6S. 180 New Hope Rd., Naperville, IL 60540) Although retired, I am a Executive Planning for IEEE Chicago Section/Fox Valley SS. We hold periodic meetings throughout year at ITT School in Wheaton. Check out our website and come to a meeting.

Ronald Davis '69

(2609 Trotters Run, Bloomington, IN 47401; rondavis@indianaimc.com) This is a photo of **J. Bradley Hull '69** and me at the Ohio State/Illini game in October 2009.



[Editor's Note: We want to see more pictures of your tailgates! Send them to us at

content@affinityconnection.com (mention SPD at Illinois)].

Bill Broersma '82

(5230 East 8th Avenue, Tuscon, AZ 85711; broersma5@cox.net) Several brothers met in Vegas for our annual get together. Although the gaming tables were cold, we still managed to have a good time. Our tour of the Hoover Dam and marveling at the new bridge being built cross Boulder Canyon were highlights. Hopefully, we'll have an even bigger crew in 2010. In this photo (L to R): **Terry and Tom Kusnierz '82, Bill Broersma '82, Jeff Schneider '77 and Scott Morrison '82.**



Jack Howard '88

(3556 Lakefront Trail, Bessemer, AL 35022; jack.howard1965@gmail.com) My family and I have recently moved to the Birmingham, Alabama area where I took a position at the University of Alabama at Birmingham to build a Human Resource Management degree program. The timing was right and the offer was too good to pass up. It is a beautiful area at the end of the Appalachians. Additionally, I am involved in Executive Education with a variety of local businesses, including Alabama

Power and the US Bankruptcy Court.

Patrick Buchana '97

(530 Berkshire, Troy, IL 62294; buchana@charter.net) This is a family picture of my wife Sarah, sons Reed (3) and Luke (1), and me. I live in the St. Louis metro area of Troy, IL in with my wife Sarah and sons Reed (3) and Luke (1). After a semi-planned departure (layoff) from Anheuser-Busch, I decided to start my own business so that I could be around more for my family and connect with the local community. So I started a health insurance agency, Triad Benefits Group, P.C. I specialize in insuring individuals and groups in Illinois and Missouri with major medical policies, and Aflac supplemental policies. I can be reached at 618-667-6920, or at Patrick@triadbenefitsgroup.com. In golf you won't win unless you tee up your shot properly...so Tee Up Your Benefits With Triad!



Justin Durfee '98

(4712 Palo Duro Avenue N.E., Albuquerque, NM 87110-1189; durfeej_7@yahoo.com) I am recently engaged, and will be getting married in late 2010.

EMAIL

We're Missing Email Addresses for 62% of You!

Welcome to the 21st century, guys! We know that more than 234 of you have email addresses that you use on a daily basis. Please update your email address with us so that we can keep you in the loop throughout the year.

Having a high percentage of email addresses is a critical advantage to our alumni association. Why? It saves us money on paper and printing, it enables us to communicate with you more frequently, and, if you choose, your email address will be available to other

Sigma Phi Delta alumni through our password-protected online directory.

Oh yeah, and we promise not to SPAM you – ever. Your email address will be stored in our secure database and used solely for SPD communications. It will never be traded or sold.

So please update your email address today to stay informed on the latest news and activities from Delta Chapter undergraduates and alumni. You'll also receive electronic reminders

when we're getting ready to publish an issue of Delta Dispatch so that you can submit your latest news and photos for publication.

You can send your email address directly to our alumni relations firm at feedback@affinityconnection.com (mention SPD at Illinois) or update it by logging on to www.spdillini.org. (See page 1 for further instruction if you haven't yet logged in to our site).

UNDERGRADUATE REPORT

Delta Chapter is 38 Members Strong and Ranks 15th in IFC Academically

By **Jeff Rizzo (ME '08)**, Active Relations Chair

We're happy to report that the active chapter is now 38 members strong after initiating 10 new members at the start of this semester. To build on this momentum, our Recruitment Chairmen planned an excellent rush calendar. Their schedule consisted of rush events varying from a house BBQ, a volleyball game and a poker tournament. From this effort we have welcomed 11 young men who wish to become members of Sigma Phi Delta.

We have also hosted or participated in many events this semester to strengthen our professional and social involvement with the campus. We once again built a float for the annual homecoming parade. Unfortunately due to the inclement weather the parade and float competition were cancelled, but we surely would have avenged their second place finish from last year had the competition gone on. Following the success of last spring semester's professional event, the chapter house hosted another one this year with the active members of our sister sorority Alpha Omega Epsilon.



The Active Chapter in front of the great float we built for the Homecoming parade. Unfortunately, the parade and float competition were canceled due to inclement weather.

Together the two groups met with members of the University of Illinois' Engineering Career Center to go through interview tips, resume reviews and helpful tips to help land that ever important job or internship. Members of the house have also been involved with a number of other student organizations this semester ranging from the Formula SAE Team, the Concrete Canoe Team, and even the

Underwater Hockey Team.

Through our busy schedules the men of Sigma Phi Delta have not forgotten our academic duties. The active chapter achieved a cumulative house GPA for the spring 2009 semester of 3.2037. This feat ranked them 15th out of the 48 fraternities in the Interfraternity Council. This is also above the All-IFC (3.1167), All-Undergraduate (3.0900) and All-Male (3.0200) averages. The Alumni Chapter does not let a feat like this go unnoticed and have awarded **Anthony Vivoli (CS '12)** with awards for highest GPA and most improved GPA. Fall 2009 Chief Engineer **Adam Borhart (CEE '10)** was also awarded the Vosecky Leadership Award for his excellent academic achievements as well as his campus and fraternal leadership.

These are just the some of the highlights of the past semester, but remember that you can keep up on current happenings of the Active Chapter at www.sigphis.org.

How do YOU reunite with SPD brothers in your alumni years? See page 3 for how to submit your stories and photos...



In this Issue...
- An Improved Financial Position for Delta Corp
- How to Vote on our Proposed Bylaw Changes
- Lots of News from Your Alumni Brothers

Sigma Phi Delta
 University of Illinois
 Alumni Relations Processing Center
 P.O. Box 7007
 Albert Lea, MN 56007-8007
 Address Service Requested
 281-052



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