

UPCOMING EVENTS

Delta Alumni Annual Meeting

June 18, 2010 @ 6:30 p.m.

"The Ram Room"

The Ram Restaurant and Brewery, Schaumburg, IL.

www.spdillini.org for more details.

Join us for our officer elections, our annual budget review, and discussions of an official investment strategy and upcoming capital expenditures on the fraternity house.

Homecoming 2010

October 23, 2010

Plan your trip now!

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

MAKE A GIFT

Alumni Contributions Make Delta Dispatch Possible

If you haven't already made your contribution to the Delta Alumni this year, please consider doing so today.

There are three ways to support the annual fund:

- By calling 800.975.6699
- Online at www.spdillini.org
- By mailing a check to "Delta Alumni Corporation" to:
Sigma Phi Delta
University of Illinois
Alumni Relations Processing Center
P.O. Box 7007
Albert Lea, MN 56007-8007

Delta Chapter of Sigma Phi Delta Fraternity

May 2010

Delta Dispatch

www.spdillini.org

University of Illinois, Champaign, Illinois



ALUMNI PROFILE

Driven to Success

Richard Young (ME '99) Plays Key Role within Ford Motor Company

Delta alumnus **Richard Young (ME '99)** will mark his 11th year with the Ford Motor Company this summer. His career has touched many different areas in Powertrain Engineering, from design of engine components and rear axles, to engine calibration and powertrain program management.

Currently, Richard is a Powertrain Resident Engineer at Ford's Chicago Assembly Plant, home of the Ford Taurus and Lincoln MKS. Built in the 1920s, Chicago Assembly is Ford's oldest continually operating manufacturing site, tucked away in an industrial area on the far south side of the city. His responsibilities include continually improving initial vehicle quality and launching new model year vehicles. As part of the Powertrain organization, his focus is on engines, transmissions, driveline, exhaust, fuel systems, and cooling systems.

"Last year, Richard was instrumental in bringing the all-new 2010 Taurus into production with the first application of Ford's new EcoBoost powertrain technology"

Last year, Richard was instrumental in bringing the all-new 2010 Taurus into production, including the reincarnated Taurus SHO, with the first application of Ford's new EcoBoost powertrain technology. Using turbocharging, direct injection, and advanced powertrain controls, EcoBoost engines simultaneously increase an engine's power and fuel efficiency of the vehicle, while lowering CO₂ output. EcoBoost technology allows the full-sized, 5-passenger, all-wheel-drive Taurus SHO to go 0-60 in under 6 seconds, while returning fuel economy better than that of other large all-wheel-drive sedans, even those with significantly less than the SHO's 365 horsepower. Ford's strategy is to have an

EcoBoost engine option in 80% of its North American fleet in the next couple years.

Due to his enthusiasm for the product, Richard was selected to represent the company at the 2010 Chicago Auto Show at McCormick Place, as a subject matter expert for the EcoBoost powertrain system. A number of fellow Sigma Phi Delta alumni stopped by to visit, and the heckling was kept to a minimum,

"Due to his enthusiasm for the product, Richard was selected to represent the company at the 2010 Chicago Auto Show at McCormick Place"

much to Richard's relief.

The next steps for Richard at Chicago Assembly are to launch the all-new Ford Explorer later this year, putting the one-time best-selling SUV on a modern car platform, enabling a 25% increase in fuel economy while maintaining the style, size, room, and off-road capabilities that the Explorer customer has grown to expect. Following that, the Chicago factory has been chosen to be the single source of Ford's all-new Police Interceptor vehicle, which should cut Richard's commute time in half while performing overnight "evaluations" of the new pursuit/patrol cars.

Richard is certain that his experience as Business Manager for the Delta Chapter while he was an active had some sort of pivotal role in Ford's recent economic turnaround, having gone from a record \$12.7 billion loss in 2006 to a \$2 billion profit in the first quarter of 2010. Richard currently lives in Chicago's South Loop neighborhood and can be reached at rc-young@illinoisalumni.org.

Debt Repayment Plan Improves Cash Position

Unprecedented Month of Alumni Donations Needed to Reach Annual Donation Goal

By Rick Woods '86; Treasurer, Delta Alumni Corporation

As we enter the final month of our fiscal year, now is a good time to reflect on how we have progressed in the past year and where we are headed in the 2010-11 fiscal year. Our cash position is sound. We have \$33,957 in our checking account and \$31,372 in our building fund investments. Since the beginning of the fiscal year (June 1, 2009), our cash position has improved \$3,127.

“Our cash improvement is attributed entirely to the active chapter keeping up with the debt repayment plan outlined at the beginning of the fiscal year.”

Unfortunately, our alumni donations are down \$4,700 versus the same period last year, and unless we have an unprecedented giving in the month of May, we will finish behind our donation goal. Our cash improvement is attributed entirely to the active chapter keeping up with the debt repayment plan outlined at the beginning of the fiscal year. Also, in November we moved our Building

Fund from a low interest bearing Money Market account to a portfolio of conservative bond and ETF funds recommended by Brother Brett Douglas – this has resulted in net gains of \$1,271 since the inception of our new funds.

As is the case every year, we have been busy with house improvements, both discretionary and mandated by constantly evolving fire protection and building codes. Early in the fiscal year, we spent \$5,250 to replace the tile flooring with high-wear flooring throughout the first floor and steps. We also spent \$1,755 to replace the fire alarm panel after a lightning strike and another \$2,000 for an effort headed up by brother Brian Dagenais to install hard-wired smoke detectors throughout the house as mandated by a new code. This past winter, we spent \$2,590 to replace the front door and surrounding trim. In March we spent \$1,974 for a new stove fire suppression system mandated by the state.

Looking ahead, the alumni approved a proposal to buy a new stove for the chapter house by Homecoming 2010, provided the

Actives keep up with rent and repay their final debt installment of \$967 by September. As it stands, the Actives are behind in their reporting and fee payments to National so a motion was passed at the AWW meeting that the Actives need to also be caught up with National to get the new stove. If the Actives catch up with National and repay the final \$967 owed to Delta Alumni before September, we are aiming to install the new stove just before the fall semester begins.

Heading into the next fiscal year, budgeting will continue to be a challenge. House improvements and maintenance expenses will continue to rise, and we will not be able to maintain our strong position without alumni contributions of both time and money. So as we prepare for the next school year beginning this fall, **PLEASE CONSIDER MAKING A GENEROUS DONATION OF TIME OR MONEY TO DELTA ALUMNI AND THE DELTA CHAPTER TO HELP US WITH THESE PROJECTS!**

ON THE WEB

Have you registered at www.spdillini.org?

If not, register today to have access to alumni updates, events, chapter reports and more!

Register on our Web Site to Get the Latest News, Event Details and More!

Haven't yet registered on our interactive alumni web site? It's easy!

- Go to www.spdillini.org
- Click on First Time Login
- Enter your last name
- Select your record
- Enter your Member ID (found above your name and address on this newsletter).
- 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!



WORK WEEKEND RECAP

Alumni Work Weekend Brings Significant Changes to the Sigma Phi Delta House

By Patrick Cox, Vice President, Delta Alumni Corporation

The 2010 Alumni Work Weekend was held April 23-25, and was once again a huge success and a great time for all who participated. The weekend started Friday evening when we met at Brothers Bar and Grill to catch up with one another and welcome everyone. Saturday morning brought the start of work on our long list of projects, which included stripping the old paint in the entryway, repairing plumbing work in the kitchen, patching the roof over the entryway, concrete repair on the front porch and stairs, caulking around the new

front door and the first floor windows, replacing two sinks in the third floor bathroom, exterior door repair, light fixture

“We had a great turnout of alumni this year, which made the weekend a lot of fun.”

replacement in the dining room, and much more! Thank you to Chef Jim Callahan for preparing us a great lunch in-between working on our projects. On Saturday evening, we

had Papa Dell’s pizza delivered to the house and finished up the projects.

We wrapped up the weekend Sunday morning with the Spring Alumni Meeting and headed home. A big thank you to all of the alumni who came for the weekend and gave their time! We had a great turnout of alumni this year, which made the weekend a lot of fun. Also, thank you to all of the actives who worked on the projects and who did a great job cleaning up the house before and after the weekend.

PHOTO ALBUM

Take a trip back in time to your SPD days! These great photos were submitted by your fellow alumni, **Carter Wright '71** and **Dave Forder '90**.



Delta Brothers and their dates enjoy the Pledge Dance in March of 1967.



Homecoming is a tradition that continues to create memories! This photo was taken during 1985 Homecoming.



Front view of the SPD house in 1967.

If you have photos and stories you’d like to share, submit your photos online at www.spdillini.org or e-mail them to content@affinityconnection.com (mention SPD at Illinois).

REUNION

The Big 10 Tournament was an opportunity for two alumni, Ronald Davis and Bradley Hull, to get together, catch up and enjoy some great basketball.

We want your updates, stories, and photos!

If you are getting together with your fellow alumni, send us your updates, stories, and photos! We’d love to include them in the next issue of *Delta Dispatch*. Submit your photos online at www.spdillini.org or e-mail them to content@affinityconnection.com (mention SPD at Illinois).



CHAPTER REPORT

Delta Bids Farewell to Seniors

By Trevor Schaaf

As chief engineer of Delta chapter, I am proud to announce that the house is coming along quite well. This semester we had four pledges. Unfortunately, one dropped to pursue education at another university.

“Some graduates will move on to careers with noted firms such as Parker Hannifin in Missouri and Smith Engineering in Illinois”

We have several actives graduating this year and they are looking forward to working in the engineering industry post-graduation. Some graduates will move on to careers with noted firms such as Parker Hannifin in Missouri and Smith Engineering in Illinois.

We wish all of our graduating seniors best of luck as they pursue their new professions.

As a result of a successful EIT, we have several newly admitted students interested in becoming in-house pledges, but we are still waiting for confirmation. We also look forward to another successful rush in the fall. If trends continue, we expect another large class next fall. As it stands, we have about 40 members on our active roster and more than 20 members living in-house. Next semester the rooms of the graduating seniors will be filled with out-of-house members.

We continue to make an impact around campus and our community through philanthropy efforts and engaging in social events. Recently,

we held a fundraiser for the Leukemia Society, which raised more than \$600. We maintain our good reputation on

“We maintain our good reputation on campus by focusing much of our time and efforts on helping others”

campus by focusing much of our time and efforts on helping others. When we put our brotherhood and community first, amazing things happen.

Do you have old pictures from your SPD days? Submit your stories and photos and they may just end up in the next issue of Delta Dispatch! See page 3 for details...



- ***Driven to Success: Richard Young '99***
 - ***SPD Builds on Solid Cash Position***
 - ***Take a Trip Back in Time Through Old Photos***
- In this Issue...***

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