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UPCOMING EVENT

Alumni Winter Meeting
January 25, 2015 at 12 noon
Ram Restaurant, Schaumburg

ALUMNI OFFICERS

Delta Alumni of Sigma Phi Delta, Inc.

President

Andy Hill '88
HillA@ci.beloit.wi.us

Vice President

Patrick Cox '07

Treasurer

Rick Woods '86

Secretary

Brendan Joyce '13

Alumni Relations Chair

Jeffrey Rizzo '08

Active Relations Chair

Kevin Liu '12

ON THE WEB

**Stay connected
throughout the year!**

Alumni Web Site
www.spdillini.org

Chapter Web Site
www.sigphis.org

Facebook Group
[www.facebook.com/
groups/2200031049/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/2200031049/)

Delta Chapter of Sigma Phi Delta Fraternity

November 2014

Delta Dispatch

www.spdillini.org

University of Illinois, Champaign, Illinois



ALUMNI REPORT

6 Great Reasons to Renew Your Participation with Sigma Phi Delta This Year

Alumni Association Offers Plenty of Ways to Uphold Your Connections to Delta Chapter

By Andy Hill '88, President, Delta Alumni

There are plenty of reasons to maintain your connections with Sigma Phi Delta long after graduation, and I thank the brothers who have remained active in their alumni years. For those of you who may have fallen away from the fraternity, we've compiled 6 great reasons to make this the year you renew your commitment to the Delta Alumni.

1. Our active chapter is thriving on campus. With 39 active members and a full house, the active chapter holds its members to high academic standards and ranks in the top 10 GPA for all fraternities.

2. Being a member of Sigma Phi Delta is a lifelong experience.

Our motto states "For the good of the profession." Our alumni are practicing these principles long after their college years by mentoring young engineers and providing a place for their growth.

3. We're a more than generous group.

Thanks to strong alumni participation, \$10,000 has already been pledged toward a ten-year Castle rehabilitation plan. You can support the effort this year and increase the momentum to enhance your alumni experience and perpetuate our thriving chapter.

4. SPD helped to advance our careers.

Robert Malinowski '64 says it best, as found in our archives: "My career with GE was enhanced by the association of my brothers at SPD and the experiences I enjoyed while was involved in growing Delta Chapter. I held several offices as an active member and as an alumni member. Please keep emphasizing the

importance of a brotherhood that will last a lifetime."

5. We offer plenty of ways for you to reconnect with old friends and with Delta Chapter. From our alumni events, this newsletter, and our online community, there are great and fun ways to find old friends and make new ones.



6. You're the key to our past, and the link to our future. As an alumni association more than 870 strong, we boast generations of brothers that have contributed to our rich history. We have collectively preserved traditions, enriched lives of young men, and kept a great organization going strong at Illinois for 86 years. You have a unique place in that history, and are asked to maintain your connections to pay it forward for future generations.

We've got a strong alumni association, a thriving active chapter, and an 86-year legacy at Illinois. If you haven't been involved in the past few years, I personally invite you to renew your participation now. As you can see, there's no better time than the present.

CHAPTER OFFICERS

Executive Board

Chief Engineer

Brady Hill '15

Jacksonville, IL
bchill3@illinois.edu

Vice President

Michael Obstoj '15

Arlington Heights, IL

Secretary

Anthony Valente '16

Libertyville, IL

Business Manager

Joseph Kus '15

Recruitment

Chris Horbacz '17

Brody Schofield '17

Social

Brody Schofield '17

Will Harley '16

Pledge Master

Adrian Dobles '15

House Manager

Nathan Schweitzer '15

Philanthropy

Vince Williamson '15

Fall 2014 Pledge Class

Kit Schofield

Philadelphia, PA

Pawel Fudala

Chicago, IL

Kevin Eicken

La Grange, IL

Isaac Ye

Shanghai, China

Steven Schmidt

Kincaid, IL

Jin Lee

Seoul, Korea

Luke Winkelmann

O'Fallon, IL

Sean Pepin

Paoli Road, PA

Hua Chen

Shanghai, China

Matt Hill

South Beloit, IL

Tejas Sharma

New Delhi, India

Doug Capuder

Madison, NJ

RUSH UPDATE

Chapter Welcomes 12 New Members this Fall, Looks to Add a "Belgian Touch" to the House in Spring

This semester, we activated 12 new members into Delta Chapter and currently have 13 pledges looking to activate at the beginning of next semesters. The size of our pledge classes has continued to rise over the last few semesters, while the quality has remained strong.

Our potential recruits enjoyed rush activities such as Ultimate Frisbee tournaments, UFC fight nights, a home volleyball game gathering, and a video game nights.

In the spring, we will be hosting an in-house pledge from Belgium for the semester. Baptiste contacted Sigma Phi Delta HQ expressing interest in joining a fraternity house for his semester in the US. From there, the house chief engineer conducted interviews with him and has helped him plan his trip to the States. The chapter is very much looking forward to adding a little "Belgian touch" to the house.

ACADEMICS & PHILANTHROPY

SPD GPA Ranks in Top 10 for Fraternities, Brothers Raise Money for Cancer Research

Delta Chapter is pleased to report that we achieved a cumulative chapter GPA of 3.10 last semester, ranking in the top 10 for fraternities. We also had four students earn a perfect 4.0 in engineering. The chapter

ensures academic excellence by enforcing social probation for students struggling with grades. Struggling students must meet with the scholastic chair and plan their week of studying, as well as make sure they are attending all of their classes, in order to be allowed to attend social events.

Philanthropically, the house continues to hold a pancake dinner each semester to help raise money for cancer research, as well as a broomball tournament each spring. We have also participated in several sorority events, the most recent being Sigma Kappa's Ultimate Frisbee tournament. Additionally, we have several active members that participate in local Big Brothers Big Sisters program and others that volunteer at the Illinois football games.



Brothers with Sigma Kappa sisters at the sorority's Ultimate Frisbee philanthropy tournament.

ALUMNI EVENTS

Business Mixed with Pleasure

Homecoming Meeting with Actives and Pledges

The Annual Homecoming meeting was held on October 26th at the Delta Chapter House in Champaign, IL. With many actives and alumni in attendance, undergraduate brother

Brady Hill was presented with the Vosecky Award. Additionally, **Michal Obstoj** and **Nico Kolmodin** were recognized with the Most Improved GPA and Highest GPA awards, respectively.

At the meeting, The

Delta Alumni voted in favor of the chartering of the Beta-Omicron Chapter at University of Missouri, Columbia. The remainder of the meeting was dedicated to discussion of the

improvement of the house resulting in the formation of the comprehensive Castle Renovation Plan. This plan is proposed to have five two-year stages. More details to follow in January.



AT THE HOUSE

Restoring a Century-Old Castle

Castle Restoration Fund Established to Renovate Chapter House as It Approaches 100th Birthday

Built in the early 1920s, our chapter house is starting to show its near-century-old age. We have begun a fundraising drive to completely gut and renovate the house in the next 10 years (we're unable to build a new one due to city building policy). The active chapter has pledged its support and will create a new position next semester, the Castle Restoration Chair, to help restore the house. Stay tuned for much more information on our fundraising efforts, upcoming projects, and how you can get involved.

In the meantime, we are working on smaller projects to improve and maintain the house. Three actives (**Brady Hill, Anthony Valente, and Michael Congdon**) redesigned the front lawn while living in the house this summer. They tore out the bushes in the front and built a retaining wall with flower boxes and a brand new sign made of bricks. The French doors on the front of the house were also replaced, improving the house's appearance from the street. Thank you to the alumni who helped fund the project.



ANNUAL FUND

2014-15 Annual Fund Donors

Goal!
40

Donors to Date:
1



Annual Fund Needs Boost, Increased Alumni Participation

Join Us as We Our Expand Our Base of Supporters in the New Giving Year

Delta Alumni of Sigma Phi Delta, Inc. needs your help this year. We ended our 2013-14 annual fund giving year on August 31 with \$3,974 in donations – a 44% decrease from the previous year.

The annual fund, which serves as the operating budget for Delta Alumni of Sigma Phi Delta, Inc., is a separate fundraising campaign from our Castle Restoration Fund mentioned on page 2. The annual fund supports our yearly alumni relations efforts, including publications, gatherings and events, and

more. The more money we raise, the more we can do to enhance your alumni experience.

We need your help to grow our annual fund in 2014-15 so we can maintain a thriving alumni program while beginning the process of renovating the Castle. This year, we are fully committed to expanding our base of annual fund supporters to include more brothers, and are striving to include more brothers to bring our total participation to 40. Can we count you among them this year?

OLD PHOTO ALBUM

What Stands Out from Your Era? Share Your Piece of Our Rich History!

Everyone loves to see the great old pictures we've collected through the years, like this picture of Delta Chapter in the early 1970s.

We want to preserve the best, fondest, and most memorable moments from our chapter's history to add to our collection so we can continue publishing the best moments caught on film for all brothers to enjoy. What stands out from your era? Will you help us to preserve the best pictures from your Sigma Phi Delta days? Send them to us using the enclosed form and envelope, or email them to content@affinityconnection.com (be sure to include "SPD at Illinois" on all correspondence.

You can find many more great historic photos on our web site, www.spdillini.org.



LOST LIST

Do You Know Where These Brothers Are?

We've lost touch with the following alumni and need your help to find them! If you know of their current whereabouts, please send an email to our alumni office at content@affinityconnection.com (mention SPD at Illinois) or include their updated contact information with your gift using the enclosed form.

George L. Reiter '48
Hugh H. Connolly '48
Kermit L. Knetsch '48
Karl E. Rennels '49



A well-maintained database allows us to keep more brothers connected throughout the years. Help us to reach more SPD members by sharing contact information for lost brothers with whom you are in touch. Our database is used solely for SPD communications.

Steve Krc '50
Erwin H. Beneke '50
William E. Shaffer '50
Joseph E. Gross '52
Richard A. Winsauer '52
William J. Pichon '53
Donald C. Kaiser '53
William H. Krebs '53
Anthony Vilona '55
Richard W. Yates '56
Ronald J. Swallow '56
Eugene W. Parry '59
James J. Spachman '60
Kourosh Zaimi, '62
Dennis L. Anderson '64
Dennis R. Michael '65
James L. Bailey '66
John P. Stapleton '67
Dennis D. Roscoe '69
Edwin H. King '70
David J. Shurman '71
Thomas S. Sandelski '74

Alan K. Dippel '79
John H. Nicewick '87
Douglas E. Zavodny '91
Peter Popovich '92
Christopher M. Martel '94
Timothy A. Nathan '94
Robin W. Dillaway '97
Patrick J. Maroon '98
Josiah J. Keske '00
Michael P. Bastin '01
Joshua T. Stone '02
Mitchell Hamer
 Goldenberg '03
Hugo Guitard '04
Erik Scott Jensen '05
Alex Matthew Dominic
 Rechenmacher '06
Samuel Goodman '06
James Ford Schramm '07
Philip Gonski '07
Frederick Lars Engstrom '08
Nick M. Boltuc '09

Matthew J Fries '09
Matthew Dane Hewitt '09
Rick E. Rechenmacher '09
Neal Sullivan '09
Jason Kidd '11
Joshua Kolakowski '11
Zachary Kriz '11
Christian Walsh '12
Ryan Pecora '12
Jordan Feller '12
Apurve Kumar '12
Faraaz Rab '12
Michael Kim '13
Taha Naseem '13
Pete Srisuk '13
Jon Dandaran '14
Adrian Dobles '14
Sean Hui '14
Henry Zarnowiecki '14
HyunSuk (Antonio) Kim '15
Nicholas Christian Foti '16

IN YOUR WORDS

What Delta Alumni are Saying about Sigma Phi Delta

Last spring, Sigma Phi Delta International Headquarters distributed an electronic survey to all alumni asking them for insight on their undergraduate and alumni experiences with the Fraternity. Here are a few responses from Delta alumni...

Describe the unique impact that being a part of SPD had on your college experience.

"As a 38-year-old pledge, I was able to see the way the fraternity structure and organization functions as a framework for stability. Also my own children were only about five years younger than most of my pledge class. I was able to practice some parenting in a way that almost no one is able to. No one gets to practice parenting, but there you go; I was able to for four years."

- **Joseph (Sam) Cox '01**

Why do you contribute to Sigma Phi Delta?

"To allow others to have the same benefits I did back in college."

- **Ross Talbot**

Describe the unique impact that being a part of SPD has had on your life since graduation.

"I wouldn't have gotten started in the electric utility industry if not for **Russ DeSalvo '99**, who encouraged me to apply at the company he had interned at. Ultimately that recommendation got me started on what has so far been a very successful career."

- **Tom Dagenais '99**

Do you consider your membership in SPD to be a lifelong commitment?

"SPD is a lifelong commitment. Why would you not want to stay involved with an organization that helped make you who you are today? I'd hope that you'd want to ensure future generations are able to have the same life-altering experiences that you did. To me,

this question is similar to asking 'Do you consider your relationship with your parents to be a lifelong commitment?' Of course it is! We promised to be brothers to each other."

- **Ian Santarinala '02** (this Delta alum serves as the Executive Secretary of Sigma Phi Delta International Headquarters)

IN MEMORY

We have recently learned of the deaths of the following alumni:

Peter Kurklak '41
Dr. Robert Beals '47
Robert Mathews '49
Louis Braun '57
Wayne Shinoki '79

Delta Chapter mourns their passing and extends condolences to their families and friends.