

# The Delta Penn

Pennsylvania Delta Chapter of  
Sigma Phi Epsilon  
University of Pennsylvania  
Established 1904  
Fall 2009



First Undergraduate Editor — Stuart R. Trottman Jr. '39

[www.PennSigEp.com](http://www.PennSigEp.com)

## PENNSYLVANIA DELTA FOUNDATION

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jonkpomeroy@yahoo.com

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**Jon Pomeroy**

**Greg Schenendorf**

**Aaron Tidman**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Homecoming 2009

November 7

Join us for a tailgate at the chapter house starting at 1:00 p.m. Following the football game, there will be a post-game celebration at the chapter house with refreshments starting around 6:00 p.m. See page 3 for more details.

## ALUMNI REPORT

### The Bigger Picture at Penn Delta

#### The Three Areas Where We Need to Excel

By Brett Danko '90; President, Pennsylvania Delta Foundation

As we begin another school year, we look ahead to the best ways to run Penn Delta now and in the future.

“Running” Penn Delta requires attention to 3 key areas:

- 1) A vibrant undergraduate chapter
- 2) Keeping in regular touch with alumni
- 3) A chapter house which supports a vibrant undergraduate chapter

When we do it right, and try we do, the results can be stunning. And when any of the key areas “lag,” our priorities must be adjusted.

#### A Vibrant Undergraduate Chapter

A recruitment retreat was held in a campus classroom on Sunday, September 13th. In that retreat 34 (of 48) returning undergrads took a candid look at chapter culture, that link between a vibrant chapter and recruitment, and reaffirmed their fidelity to the cardinal principles of SigEp.

This was followed by a chapter meeting on the following Sunday, September 20th in which a demonstration/reaffirmation ritual initiation was exemplified.

Each undergraduate in attendance reaffirmed the Ritual’s Oath of Obligation, the oath which each of us took when it was his turn to join the ranks. Further, the undergraduate standards board was recreated. Based on reports of alumni who attended the gatherings on both Sundays, the chapter seems poised to re-emerge as a committed, mutually supportive and credible fraternal organization.

#### Keeping in Regular Touch with Alumni

Since the late 1930s, Penn Delta has striven to publish a *Delta Penn* at least twice a year. Further, the alumni have established

a series of events, the Senior Dinner, Homecoming and the Balanced Man Scholarship presentation banquet in the fall and the New York City McCron dinner and Penn alumni weekend, which are opportunities for alumni to participate directly. More than that, individual alumni of various eras have stayed in touch, get together regularly and (occasionally) let the rest of us know what happened.

Publishing a regular *Delta Penn*, and promoting, organizing, and staging alumni events and underwriting some of the expenses respecting undergraduate leadership huddles costs money...more about that below.

#### A Quality Undergraduate Chapter House Facility

Ah, yes...here comes the money part... Maintaining our 4028 Walnut Street property costs approximately \$125,000 per year, and that is a general figure which does **not** include “major” expenses such as a new roof or a new boiler, if and when such needs arise.

The maintenance funds are generated from room rentals which the undergraduates pay to Penn and which are managed and spent by the University’s Office of Fraternity and Sorority Affairs and the Pennsylvania Delta Foundation.

Upgrading our chapter house has been the subject of alumni get-togethers, Delta Penns, and fund drives for years. Little could be added here other than this essential fact: **we need funding.**

*Continued on page 2...*

*Continued from Page 1...*

What follows is the joint Pennsylvania Delta Foundation/undergraduate chapter plan to address the 3 key factors on page 1.

- Vibrancy in the chapter depends on integrity. With active alumni support, undergraduates need to hold themselves to standards of excellence which reflect well on themselves, their families, SigEp and Penn. To that end, the following commitments have been made:
  - a. A once a year review of chapter culture, with a goal-setting objective. The thought is to do this every September, but we are open to doing it in April to set up for the next school year.
  - b. Undergraduates will have one ritual meeting a month to continue to remind themselves of their commitments (read integrity).
  - c. Alumni are working to identify a SigEp alumnus to mentor each undergraduate executive officer. (Big hint to alumni reading this.)

***“Since the late 1930s, Penn Delta has striven to publish a Delta Penn at least twice a year. Further, the alumni have established a series of events...which are opportunities for alumni to participate directly.”***

- Keeping in regular touch with alumni is the easy one...and, candidly, what's would add spark to those efforts needed is stronger alumni response. Share your news (see the enclosed form), make it a point to attend events and gatherings as appropriate to your circumstances, and, yes, there are plenty of “opportunities” to provide funding.
- And now to the chapter house. The message is direct: Send money

## Funding Priorities

### “Small Change”

Penn Delta's funding base comprises our alumni, some of our parents and friends. It's that direct.



*There are plenty of opportunities to reconnect with Penn Delta as an alum, including our alumni weekend each spring.*

And, no surprise, the stronger alumni cohesion is, the stronger our financial base will be. So our first priority is the alumni base...dues, those “smaller sums” which, collectively, allow for Delta Penn publication and all of the other alumni/undergraduate activities which go on during a year.

### **Dues are priority number one.**

Additionally, if you are willing to do so, please consider tax-deductible gifts to the Sigma Phi Epsilon Educational Foundation earmarked for our Balanced Man Scholarship Fund. Reason: the Balanced Man Scholarship is how the chapter introduces itself to freshmen over the summer and into the fall. Over the past 17 years, the Balanced Man Scholarship has earned Penn Delta a number of quality brothers.

### **Gifts for the Balanced Man Scholarship Fund are priority number two.**

### “The Big Money”

Here things get dicier, for we have an on-going capital fund raising campaign to secure funds for a quality chapter housing facility.

Thanks in large part to the so-called economy, construction on campus has come to a halt, save for programs which are fully funded.

As described in the last issue of the Delta Penn, what we have done is to divide our project into three phases, rather than do “everything” at once.

Our architect, the University and I have been in constant touch, and, with fingers crossed, we may be able to confirm a date for phase one by the beginning of 2010.

The funding implication is clear: the more money we have, the more we can do

and the more quickly we can get it done.

So...make a pledge if you have not yet done or renew your pledge, if you are willing, and please (actively!) consider providing us with a continuing stream of funding, year in and year out.

Priority one for the larger sums of money—the larger, discretionary funds, if you will—is clearly for chapter house improvements.

## A Big Thank You

I close by acknowledging three valiant alumni who, over the years, have shown us the way, and ask that you consider them to be good examples.

As he neared retirement and especially after he took the retirement plunge, **Jim Hughes '52**, made Penn Delta a “second career.” Same goes for **Don Bux '53**. Often in tandem, these two alumni made a huge and lasting difference in the 90s and beyond. Though Don is gone, Jim still actively consults with **Brett Merves '04** who succeeded him as alumni chapter house maintenance chair.

***“The funding implication is clear: the more money we have, the more we can do and the more quickly we can get it done.”***

Are there other alumni like Jim Hughes and Don Bux out there? We need you, and, as I trust Jim will affirm, it's worth it. We need alumni participation and mentoring. And then there is **Henry Pope '43**. Hank kept the Penn Delta linkages during WWII strong, and has never forgotten Penn Delta.

When we began our current fund drive, Hank said that he wasn't willing to make a specific pledge to our campaign, but that he would, every December, send us a check...for the rest of his life.

Anyone else care to join him? For those of you willing to make a pledge or another pledge (form enclosed), anticipated thanks. And for those of you willing to take “the Pope's” example to heart, might you follow his lead and send us a regular capital gift for chapter house improvement...every year...for the rest of your life?

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Homecoming 2009

Please join us for our annual Homecoming celebration at the chapter house on November 7th, 2009. This year we're doing things a little differently. The game is at 3:30 p.m., so we're having a tailgate at the chapter house (4028 Walnut Street) before the game. The tailgate festivities will begin promptly at 1:00 p.m. There will be plenty of food and refreshments before the game.

Following the game, please join us for a post-game celebration at the chapter house. We'll have more refreshments and a light



*Hope to see you at Homecoming!  
This photo is from 2007's event.*

fare following the game starting around 6:00 or 6:30 p.m. As usual, Bootsie Barnes will be performing after the game. We hope to see you there!

Please email or call Brett Danko with your RSVP ([brett@brettdanko.com](mailto:brett@brettdanko.com); 609-203-3477).

Please visit the official 2009 Penn Homecoming University site for more details regarding events during Homecoming Weekend 2009 (November 5 - 8). Find a link at

[www.pennsigep.com](http://www.pennsigep.com).

## ALUMNI IN THE NEWS

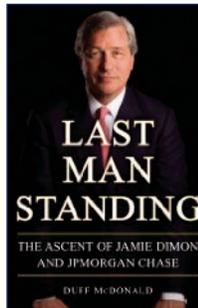
### The Banker Who Saved Wall Street

A newly published book by Penn Delta alumnus **Duff McDonald '92** explains all.

In Duff's own words, as they appeared in the September 21 issue of Newsweek.com, "On the morning of Sept. 18, 2008, the phone rang in Jamie Dimon's office on the 48th floor of JPMorgan Chase's New York headquarters."

"It was Hank Paulson, the Secretary of the Treasury, who for the second time in six months had a pressing question..."

If this "teaser" piques your interests, you



**Duff McDonald '92**  
and the cover of  
his new book, "Last  
Man Standing".

may wish to buy "Last Man Standing," Duff's story of how JP Morgan Chase CEO Jamie Dimon bailed out Bear Stearns and the Federal government...and turned a profit.

As Duff's article elucidates, "...as the economy has begun to stabilize, many of the

government's actions last fall...have seemed effective. But in the midst of the crisis, regulators seemed repeatedly to rely on a simple tactic: calling Jamie Dimon and asking him to step in."

Published by Simon & Schuster, Duff's book "Last Man Standing" is available in most book stores, including Barnes and Noble on campus.

## TARGETED MEMORANDUM

**To: Graduates of Classes Ending in "0" or "5"**  
**Re: Your unique position to participate with Penn and assist SigEp**

As all of us (except very recent alumni) know, every five years after graduation, the University's organized classes conduct major fifth year (quintennial) on-campus reunions where each fifth year class presents Penn with its fifth year class gift. The 25th and the 50th anniversary years, traditionally are "big deals".

Generally, classes determine a specific use for its fifth year gift. Scholarships, a specific endowment or building wing are representative examples of fifth year reunion gifts to Penn.

Thanks to skillful negotiation by our

alumni board president, **Brett Danko '90**, the University has agreed to treat fifth year class gifts to Penn earmarked for **Trustees of the University of Pennsylvania**, designated in memo to **Residential Operating and Construction Fund No. 600626 for Sigma Phi Epsilon** as part of the class gift bottom line.

Crediting such SigEp earmarked gifts to Penn from fifth year reunion classes was one of the incentives for our SigEp class of 1955 to make its \$50,000 50th reunion gift, presented at the fall of 2007's homecoming.

The "0" and "5" classes (and especially the class of 1960 and 1985) have the same opportunity to augment their class gift bottom line AND assist SigEp.

Please give consideration to participating in the Campaign for Sigma Phi Epsilon via your fifth year class gift to Penn.

**Find more information  
on this and all of our  
fundraising opportunities  
at [www.pennsigep.com](http://www.pennsigep.com).**

## CHAPTER UPDATE

### Poised to Reach New Heights

#### *Penn Delta Boasts a Full House, Strong Presence on Campus*

By Patrick Hillstrom

Penn Delta kicks off the fall semester of its 105th year on excellent footing. At the conclusion of September's recruitment retreat, each brother formally reaffirmed his Oath of Obligation to the Fraternity.

***"The amount of time invested by the alumni reminds the chapter of why it has one of the best alumni groups on campus."***

Now more than ever, the chapter is poised to reach new heights with 26 brothers living in the chapter house, strong freshman

interest in the brotherhood, and an active and involved membership around campus.

Penn Delta maintains a strong presence on the University's extracurricular activities scene with members involved in performing arts groups (Strictly Funk, Dhamaka, Hype, PennSingers), community service organizations (Penn GREEN, Alternate Spring Break, PennPals), and the Social Planning & Events Committee. Chef William "Jack" Shores remains a warm presence around the Manor, and he continues to teach the sophomore members a thing or two about pool. All in all, the house is prepared for a strong year.

As always, the chapter is especially thankful for the generosity of the alumni. Besides the planned addition to the manor, the house is slated to receive new furniture and a brand new television. The amount of time invested by the alumni reminds the chapter of why it has one of the best alumni groups on campus. Moreover, the senior dinner held on the 24th of September was a wonderful event, and all who were in attendance happily wished the seniors the best of luck in their final year at the University of Pennsylvania.

## IN YOUR WORDS

### How Did SigEp Influence You?

*Thank you to our alumni members who recently responded to let us know how Sigma Phi Epsilon has influenced their lives. Here's what a few brothers had to say about their time in the fraternity:*

**Jason Feldman '02:** "The friends that I made during my years at SigEp are still some of my best friends. Their friendships have shaped who I am today." Jason added that he was attracted to the fraternity because "it was always about the guys in the house. The people I met during rush

seemed genuinely fun and interested in the same things as I was."

**Jeffrey B. Whiting '81:** "It brought me into contact with others that I would not have met on my own and forged friendships that survive time and separation." Jeffrey went on to say, "I was accepted to Penn as a late admission transfer student. I came to campus looking for housing and was given a list of fraternities that were taking borders. While SigEp had just moved into 428

Walnut and was still undergoing construction, the brothers that I met really made the difference. I was greeted as a friend immediately and brought into the fellowship without reservation."

**Kenneth Marcus '72:** "[SigEp] provided friends that I could count on long after I'd left college."

*We want to know the impact that SigEp had on you too! Share your story online at [www.pennsigep.com](http://www.pennsigep.com).*

## FROM THE ARCHIVES...

### Back in 1950...

We love coming across great old photos from our chapter's history, including this one from the 1950 edition of *The Record* yearbook. We want to feature more old pictures in our newsletter and monthly e-Letter!

If you have great photos from your era, please send them to our editors at [content@affinityconnection.com](mailto:content@affinityconnection.com) (mention SigEp at Penn), or upload them at [www.pennsigep.com](http://www.pennsigep.com).



## ALUMNI UPDATES

### '60s

#### David Woodyatt '65

(2050 Norfolk Rd., Northfield, IL 60093; dwoodyatt@kic-kamco.com) I retired from the Harris Bank in 2006 after 40 years there. My retirement lasted three weeks. Keeley Asset Management made me an offer I couldn't refuse and I went back to work. Keeley is a much smaller but growing firm specializing in smaller cap stocks. I also now have two grandchildren.

#### Dave Gingras '69

(334 East Seabright Road, Ocean City, NJ 08226; disegno500@msn.com) I was running the Baltimore Marathon on October 10, 2009 and was pleasantly surprised to come to the Johns Hopkins SigEp water stop in front of the campus! I identified myself as a Sig Ep and got some brotherly encouragement to continue on and finish the Marathon. SigEps are everywhere!

### '90s

#### Stephen Gresdo '96

(45 W. 67th St., Apt. 19E, New York, NY 10023; sgresdo@hotmail.com) A group of Penn Deltas got together for an August reunion at Quang O's home in Spicer, MN.



### We Want to Know What's New with You Too!

You can find your Member ID, required for First TimWe want to feature more alumni news and photos in upcoming editions of our newsletter and monthly e-Letter! So take a few minutes to send your submissions.

Have you recently...

- Gotten engaged or married?
- Welcomed a baby into your family?
- Started a new job?
- Moved across country?
- Reunited with other Penn Delta alumni?

If so, send us your stories and pictures today! You can send them using the enclosed form and envelope, or by uploading them in the Alumni Updates section at [www.pennsigep.com](http://www.pennsigep.com).

## ALUMNI IN THE NEWS

### Neil Batiacila '99 Receives Distinguished Award

*Sigma Phi Epsilon congratulates Neil Batiacila '99 who recently received a Comcast Leadership Award reflecting his outstanding dedication to City Year. City Year finds top young people all across the country to make a year commitment to assisting children and their local communities in 19 different locations across the United States and one in South Africa. Congratulations again Neil!*

#### Comcast honors City Year alums still changing the world

Neil Batiacila, the co-Executive Director of the Greater Philadelphia City Year corps, and Comcast have become good friends and frequent collaborators. City Year represents Comcast's largest national community partnership, a bond that began more than eight years ago.

I've had the pleasure of knowing Neil for about a year. Humble and hard-working, this former corps member has helped to build Greater Philadelphia into one of the largest and strongest organizations within City Year. Over the past three years, corps membership has

grown from 175 to 245, revenue has increased by 45 percent and nearly \$2 million has been raised in the last two fundraising galas. Neil also organized the first-ever Serve-a-Thon in City Year Greater Philadelphia history, which has since engaged more than 6,000 volunteers.

So it was no surprise that Neil was among five alums honored with Comcast Leadership Awards, presented recently in Washington, D.C., at City Year's National Leadership Summit.

Comcast has sponsored these awards since 2005, honoring more than 25 City Year alums who have continued to have great impact in their communities.

While the evening was special for all, there's a reason beyond prior association that I've singled out Neil.

Neil's parents emigrated from the Philippines. He has frequently mentioned how they instilled in him a strong sense of integrity, social entrepreneurship and the importance of giving back.

The awards ceremony was held on Tuesday, June 9, his late father's 66th

birthday. Neil mentioned how special it would have been for his dad to be there, but then he smiled and introduced me to his mom, Thelma. I'm not sure which Batiacila was more proud.

Neil and all of the honorees received certificates and gifts from Comcast EVP David L. Cohen, and earned well-deserved standing ovations from about 300 people in attendance. As David said, "These are great examples of the impact City Year alumni are having in communities across the United States. And they magnify the collective power of the 11,400 alumni who continue to change the world, every day."

Stay tuned to Penn Delta alumni news throughout the year at [www.pennsigep.com](http://www.pennsigep.com)!

## HONOR ROLL OF DONORS

### This Issue of *The Delta Penn* Brought to You By...

Thank you to the following alumni members for paying their alumni dues in 2008-09 and/or so far in 2009-10. Because of their support, we are able to continue our alumni relations program through publication of our newsletter and web site and through regular alumni events.

If your name isn't yet listed under "2009-10" below, please make your dues payment today to kick off the 2009-10 giving year, which began September 1. See the enclosed form for more information on how to make a gift.

#### 2008-09

Mary Beth Bokelberg		David E. Callahan	1960	Timothy A. Garvey M.D.	1980
Stuart R. Trottmann Jr.	1939	Bruce D. McCormick	1960	Jeffrey B. Whiting	1981
Paul H. Strehle Jr.	1940	Henry F. Guckes III	1961	Marc A. Fox	1982
Winfield G. Knopf	1941	John A. Bryson	1962	Sid I. Bakst	1983
Harry G. Arthur Jr.	1942	James L. Luther	1962	Douglas S. Roberts	1983
John J. Huston	1943	Daniel H. Van Winkle	1962	Derek P. Warden	1983
Richard C. Kmetz	1943	Charles E. Wheeler	1963	Timothy E. Games	1984
Henry A. Pope Jr.	1943	Ronald A. Dreger	1964	Alan M. Abrams	1985
Frank H. Batchelor	1944	Terry N. Rahmeier	1964	Michael D. Collins	1985
Norman A. Peil Jr.	1946	Conrad J. Eberstein	1965	Mark Rex Edelson	1986
George L. Wiley	1948	James A. Spendiff	1965	Joseph R. Halprin	1987
Robert J. Melvin	1949	George W Wolf	1965	Steven C. Kessel	1988
Charles R. Shubert	1949	David N. Woodyatt	1965	Brian G. Price	1989
Robert L. Anderson	1950	Calvin D. Bamford Jr.	1966	Matthew T. Ciesla	1990
James M. Armstrong II	1950	Thomas S. Post Jr.	1966	Brett R. Danko	1990
Robert T. Mullen Sr.	1950	William M. Schilling Esq.	1966	John J. Orris D.O.	1990
William M. Wheaton	1950	Paul W. Sottnek Jr.	1966	Joel T. Frauenheim	1992
David L. Bickelhaupt	1951	Salvador A. Brau	1967	Jason R. Wood	1993
David L. Ffrench	1951	Edward F. Plow	1967	Michael John Haraschak IV, MD	1995
Thomas A. Kenny	1951	Dallas L. Smith	1967	Richard B. Thompson	1995
Frank R. Herbert Jr.	1952	James Ansley Carnahan	1968	Lee V Wesner	1995
James A. Hughes Jr.	1952	Mark E. Lieberman	1969	Stephen J. Gresdo	1996
Donald A. Bux	1953	Stephen E. Luongo Esq.	1969	Nick Bhuta	1997
Warren E. Davidson	1953	H. Lee Roussel Esq.	1969	Jason D. Kirschner	1997
George L. Hachar	1953	Harold T. Baker II	1970	Frank D. Catricket	1998
Matthew D. Mackie Jr.	1953	Bernardo Beyer	1971	Richard Chou	1999
Donald F. Sontag	1953	Robert H. Mayer	1971	John V. McCarty	1999
Rogers W. Vaughn	1953	Kenneth P. Frankel Esq.	1972	Daniel J. Olson	1999
Joseph R. Burns	1954	Thomas J. Keeline Esq.	1972	Jason Feldman	2002
Earl Cranston Conway	1954	David M. Kohen Esq.	1972	Jimmy Santomauro	2008
Donald T. Floyd	1954	Jeffrey R. Lehman Esq.	1972	JJ Anthony	2009
George B. Ramsey	1954	Kenneth B. Marcus Esq.	1972		
P. Clarke Glennon	1955	Jeffrey B. Rotwitt Esq.	1972	<b>2009-10 YTD</b>	
Robert M. Johnson	1955	Charles E. Olander	1973	Henry A. Pope Jr.	1943
Vincent E. Rettew Jr.	1955	Steven M. Widerman	1974	Robert L. Anderson	1950
E. Kendall Lorenz	1956	David A. Gingras	1975	Kenneth L. Klingerman	1954
Carroll P. Andres	1957	Joseph S. Magnano Esq.	1975	Fred D. Smith	1957
Fred D. Smith	1957	Kevin C. Duffy	1976	Ronald A. Dreger	1964
Carl O. Foley	1958	Raymond T. Stahl Jr.	1977	William M. Schilling Esq.	1966
Frank C. "Duke" Taylor Jr.	1958	Ted L. Crandall	1978	Thomas J. Keeline Esq.	1972
Thomas E. Tay	1959	Mark N. Spencer	1978	Timothy E. Games	1984
		Anthony N. Mishik MD	1979		