

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mark Your Calendars!

November 9th, 2019:
Penn Homecoming

December 2019:
**Balanced Man
Scholarship Dinner**

More details to follow, please stay tuned.

ALUMNI OFFICERS

Alumni Board President
Brett Danko '90
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Alumni Board Vice President
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Alumni Board Communications
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Board Members
Conrad Eberstein '65
Jared Fenton '17
David Ffrench '51
Tim Games '84
Tony Krumbhaar '13
Joe Langella '83 (U-Conn)
William Shilling '66

ON THE WEB



We're missing email addresses for a number of alumni. If you haven't been receiving our monthly eLetter, please update your email address today to stay informed of the latest Pennsylvania Delta Chapter news and event details.

You can update your email address at www.pennsigep.com or by sending it to alumnews@affinityconnection.com (mention Penn SigEp)

The Delta Penn



Pennsylvania Delta Chapter of Sigma Phi Epsilon University of Pennsylvania
Established 1904 / First Undergraduate Editor — Stuart R. Trottmann Jr. '39

IT'S HOMECOMING TIME!

We Want to See You

University Homecoming, Saturday, November 9th, will be a SPEcial time for Penn Delta, and its success will be "guaranteed" when you are there.

The highlight, among many, of the day will be as we dedicate a plaque in the foyer honoring our Class of 1955. Please join us at 4028 Walnut for a post-football game gathering which will be warm, welcoming and fun—guaranteed!

As practicable, we ask that all Penn Delta SigEps wear a sweater, a shirt, a jacket, a hat or any other apparel related to Penn and/or

SigEp (both?).

For offerings of SigEp swag, please see the SigEp website: www.officialsigepstore.com/

For Penn's much more comprehensive website of swag, please visit the Penn Bookstore online: www.upenn.bncollege.com/shop/upenn/home

Let's surprise (amuse?) our undergrads and recent alumni by our "classy" appearance and visible loyalty to Dear Old Fraternity and Dear Old Penn.

Come up to the chapter house after the Penn-Cornell game (around 3 pm), see old friends, meet new ones, especially the chapter members, and partake of hors d'ouvres and refreshment provided by our brand new chef! Jason Rego has been preparing dinners for the chapter this semester, and he would be more than pleased to meet "these alumni" he has been hearing about.

The undergrads are glad that Jason is with them, and those among those of us who remember Mr. Marshall, Jack Shores and Dorsey Baker will be especially pleased, for it seems today's chapter has re-discovered the worth of a "table" which brings many chapter members together face-to-face (especially in a day of iPhones and less integrative day-to-day experiences of Brotherhood.)

In addition to unveiling the "Class of 1955 Living Room" plaque, we will have a student

Penn jazz/dixie land trio, and we are working on another drop-in by a campus performance group which, if accomplished, will be a real treat, as well.

So spike up your enthusiasm, perhaps get your singing voices in gear, bring your family--and let us know you are attending so our "kitchen staff" can prepare sufficiently.

RSVP, to **Brett Danko**, 609-203-3477 or brett@brettdanko.com



State of the Chapter Report to Alumni

The state of our chapter is good, as is the state of the Pennsylvania Delta Foundation. Both the chapter and the “alumni chapter” have taken recent action to lift their respective trajectories. We look forward to next month’s Homecoming gathering at 4028 on the 9th, and to our annual NYC McCrorn dinner at The Penn Club in the spring.

There have been two significant developments with the chapter. Five new sophomore members have been added to our rolls and the undergrads contracted with Gill’s Grill to secure the much-appreciated services of Jason Rego, new chapter chef.

These concrete developments area already making a positive difference as the chapter moves upwards and onwards under the leadership of current chapter president, **Ryan Pruitt, ’22**, and his capable, engaged executive board.

Earlier this year, the Pennsylvania Delta Foundation determined that it needs to elect recent alumni to its board in order to “translate” the undergraduate needs and experience to the rest of us. Being an “olde pharte” is no longer sufficient to encourage, guide, and even mentor the chapter.

As such, the PDF has elected **Tony Krumbhaar, ’13**, and **Jared Fenton, ’17** to



Left to Right: Dan DeLuca '90, Brett Danko '90 @ the Philadelphia Cricket Club for this year's Senior Dinner

the board in September. They join **Dustin Klein, '16**, as a much appreciated and welcome addition to board efforts.

Both Tony and Jared attended last month’s senior dinner and witnessed the kind of men we have attracted to our ranks.

Last, thanks to the hard, persistent attention of undergraduate president Ryan Pruitt last spring and into the summer, coupled with the support of alumni board members **Brett Merves, '05**, and **Dustin Klein, '16**, several physical improvements to 4028 Walnut were made

during the summer. Alumni returning for Homecoming on **Saturday, November 9th** will see many examples, pictures of which accompany this article.

Bottom line: the Pennsylvania Delta Foundation and the chapter are moving forward and upwards, and to those among us who assisted the Foundation surpass its dues goal of \$15,000 for FY 2018-2019 have earned our thanks and deserve credit for strengthen alumni ability to support Penn Delta. Our goal for this fiscal year is \$20,000.

A dues form accompanies this issue, and we trust that this recap of where we are will encourage Penn Delta alumni to continue support of efforts to have a stronger, cohesive, inclusive, clean, and enthusiastic undergraduate chapter which embraces the ancient Greek concepts of virtue, diligence, brotherly love and balance in their lives.

Respectfully submitted,

Brett R Danko

Brett Danko, '90
President,
Pennsylvania Delta Foundation

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

My Most Memorable Independence Day: Brother Skip Dahlgren '66

Thanks to Brother **Skip Dahlgren, '66** for sharing this story. Do you have a memory or update you’d like to share? Send it to alumninews@affinityconnection.com and it may be shared in an upcoming publication to your Brothers.

“50 years ago I was posted at Kagnew Station in Asmara as an Arabic translator and interpreter. On 4 July 1969, I helped lead a tour of archaeological and historical sites around Eritrea and Ethiopia. I had already spent several weeks taking part in the season’s excavations at one of the sites we were visiting. While visiting another important site that was far off the main road and had required special permission to visit, we encountered a group of soldiers from the Eritrean Liberation Front. The resulting



experience remains my most memorable Independence Day.

This video (<http://tiny.cc/0mz5dz>) tells the story of an encounter which I and a number of friends experienced in Eritrea on 4 July, 1969. The video is intended to enhance and expand a radio essay I produced in 2006 for broadcast on Tales From the South (<http://www.talesfromthesouth.com>), a locally produced program hosted by

Paula Morell broadcast on KUAR-FM in Little Rock, which gives a venue for writers to have their works heard. During the first season, when this was produced and broadcast, the recordings were recorded in the KUAR studio, rather than read before a live audience at Paula’s Starving Artist Café, as they have been subsequently.”

Ryan Pruitt, '22 - Chapter President

Penn Delta is experiencing a wave of fresh air throughout the chapter. The brothers are all good friends, have created a supportive community for one another, and have emerged as chapter which values balance and ambition. We uphold our values among our brotherhood and are accountable for one another.

The summer house improvements such as raising ceilings, installing new carpeting, redoing parts of the basement, and replacing/refinishing hardwood floors in the public areas of the House have made the living conditions in the house so much better and have helped boosted having Manor of Sigma Phi Epsilon feel like a home away from home.

In addition to the house improvements, Penn Delta is more than grateful to have earned alumni support to purchase new tables and chairs for our dining room, a new freezer for our kitchen, and new TV for the Class of 1955 Living Room. With the continued support and strong participation of the SigEp alumni board, our chapter is happy and thriving. Thank you, alumni!

Last but not least, Penn Delta welcomes Jasson Rego to our Manor. Jason is our new chef and comes to us via Gill Grilling, our catering company.

Jason prepares dinner for our chapter on Sunday, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday and brings breakfast five days a week. And



on Sunday, Jason provides hot breakfasts including pancakes, fruit, eggs, and bacon. The combination of the house improvements, the new tables and chairs and Chef Jason are having a positive impact on the chapter.

The brothers are grateful that our alumni have our backs, and the chapter genuinely appreciates the time, energy, and funding that our alumni have provided. We anti-

pate thanking many alumni directly for their concern and interest in us at Homecoming, November Ninth.

Moving forward, the brothers are looking to further our relationship with our alumni and overall create a more vibrant and positive culture within Penn Delta, giving life to our principles of brotherly love, pride, diligence, and caring.

PHILANTHROPY

Summer of Community Service and Research for Brothers

We wanted to share with the chapter members the community service projects that brothers have participated in this past summer;

Brothers **Mateen Tabatabaei '21**, **Hugh Reynolds '20**, **Alex Farid '20**, **Nate Dangle '20**, **Mitchell Cornell '21**, and **Matthew Gosser '22** supported children, who have been impacted by a parent's cancer, at Camp Kesem. Camp Kesem in Cherry Hill, NJ is a week-long Summer Camp that provides innovative and engaging programs full of fun-filled activities for the children.

Mitchell Cornell and Mateen Tabatabaei will be on the Executive Board for Camp Kesem next year.

Undergrad President, Ryan Pruitt interned as a Residential Advisor in a business program for high school kids at Columbia University. Ryan worked for eight weeks under Michelle Greenwald, founder of Inventours and DigitaLatest, and a Penn Graduate. As an RA, Ryan mentored and tutored high school kids on topics such as going to

college, mental health, majors/minors, and New York City.

At Columbia, Ryan also taught a three-week seminar on New Product Design & Entrepreneurship. There, Ryan's students were put into groups and tasked with developing their own startup.

Quincy Hendricks '22 performed research at Penn's Center for Neurotrauma and Therapeutics in a neuro-engineering lab under the name Vitaly Labs. He made super thin microdevices that are laid down on the skin and can read or stimulate brain activity.

Quincy spent most of his time at the Penn's Singh Center for Nano-tech in the Quattrone nanofabrication facility. He described this as a very clean room designed for the purpose of creating these microelectrodes. There, he used light reactive polymers to build the devices layer by layer. More specifically, nanometers of gold and graphene created an electrode that can be bent while still being as conductive as typical ones.

Seniors Honored as Year Begins

Penn Delta's annual senior dinner now is held at the beginning of the school year and the date for the Class of 2020's took place on Sunday evening, September 15th at the Philadelphia Cricket Club in Chestnut Hill. Pennsylvania Delta Foundation president **Brett Danko, '90**, welcomed everyone as he stood before two Honor of Philiias awards which two of our alumni have earned.

Brett noted the opportunity which being a SigEp means and explained that having the senior dinner at the semester's start is Penn Delta's way to demonstrate to our seniors that SigEp, at its best, is about a lifetime of brotherhood. To that end, Brett directly charged the seniors to remain active, to participate and vigorously support the chapter, and to mentor the recruitment and brotherhood development efforts.

Brett asked if various alumni and seniors might share what it meant to them to be a Penn Delta SigEp and, in the case of the seniors, what their next life step or two might be.

Penn Delta is fortunate to have its 2020 senior class this balanced and diverse, with high personal aspirations. All of the alumni present expect, frankly, to hear a lot from this class and look forward to seeing them and the rest of the chapter at our November 9th Homecoming, at our New York City McCron dinner in the spring-- and beyond.

Thirteen of our seniors: **Daniel Tan-**



Brett Danko '90 in front of two Honor of Philiias Awards



Most of Penn Delta's class of 2020



Left to Right: Two Order of the Golden Heart recipients: Conrad Eberstein '65 and District Governor Joe Langella CT Alpha '83



Left to Right: Jon Bell (OFSL Advisor), Daniel Tancredi '20, Olufemi Palmer '20

cred, **Olufemi Palmer**, **Justin Swirbul**, **Andrej Patoski**, **Vishal Tien**, **Nicholas Paleologos**, **Michael Bogdanos**, **Jack Bellwoar**, **Mark Shtrackhman**, **Kaden Diniz**, **Alex Farid**, **Travis Wood**, and past president **Nathan Dangle**, who whipped up attendance, were joined by alums **Clarke Glennon, '55**. **Conrad Eberstein**,

'65, **Brett Danko** and **Dan DeLuca**, both '90, **Dan Olson, '99**, **Brett Merves, '05**, **Tony Krumbhaar, '13**, and **Jared Fenton, '17**. (Jared received the Honor of Philiias Award at Conclave in July, see accompanying article on page 5.)

The Pennsylvania Delta Foundation also invited Jon Bell from Penn's Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life (OFSL), and our SigEp District Governor, new recipient of Richmond's Order of the Golden Heart, the Fraternity's highest volunteer honor.

One of our alumni, Dan deLuca, '90, made timely and poignant remarks in speaking directly to the seniors about his journey of brotherhood, both as an undergrad and as an alumnus.

Dan began by noting how he had had a very busy day and felt like "blowing off" the dinner, noting parallels to his own undergraduate days in the chapter. He expressed his gratitude that he kept his promise to attend, because it underscored for him, as he listened to many of the undergrads and alumni relate their stories, how a significant portion of his undergraduate experience represented wistfully missed opportunity.

Having a family, building a professional practice, and having listened to his children talk about their fraternity and sorority experiences brought it home for Dan and, he hoped, for this senior class: there is something SPECIAL about Penn Delta and the more we undertake to recognize and acknowledge that, the deeper and stronger our chapter's undergraduate and alumni experiences will be.

Joining Brother Dan de Luca, the alumni present expressed their thanks all around and wished the very best to our seniors for the rest of the year and in their future endeavors. We look forward to seeing Dan and perhaps members of his family, along with a full contingent of seniors, at Homecoming on November Ninth.

Penn Delta Alumnus Jared Fenton, '17 Honored at Houston Conclave

Building on an initiative started at the chapter house in 2012 by **Tony Krumbhaar, '13**, ("Tony Talks") and furthered each ensuing year ("Chike Chats," etc.), **Jared Fenton** was presented with the National Fraternity's highest award for exceptional demonstration of Brotherly Love, the Honor of Philias, at Conclave's Brotherhood Luncheon on Friday, July 26th.

Jared is president of the Reflect Organization, a 501(c)(3) entity, which expanded Tony Krumbhaar's Penn Delta initiative and created a multi-University organization to facilitate and guide undergrads in having "meaningful" conversations which aim to pierce surface defenses and get to the core of what is going on with each participant.

With an office in Center City Philadelphia, at 16th and Market, Jared has expanded Reflect to include Columbia and Cornell, has sought and earned the cooperation of a Philadelphia accounting firm, a New York City legal team, as well as volunteer fund raisers and public relations experts to advise, guide and assist in expanding the scope of the Reflect Organization.



Left to Right: Aaron Johnson '21, Penn Delta Conclave Delegate; Jared Fenton '17, recipient of the Honor of Philias; Conrad Eberstein '65; Penn Faculty Advisor to Reflect Dr. Frank Pellicone, Nate Dangle '20, Penn Delta Conclave Delegate and former Chapter President; Brett Danko '90

Jared is the second Penn Delta alumnus to have received the Fraternity's Honor of Philias, joining WWII Delta Penn editor **Hank**

Pope, '43, who was honored and thanked for his efforts in keeping the chapter's servicemen in touch via monthly, mimeographed issues of the Delta Penn (called The Delta Pen, back then.)

Hank was awarded the Honor of Philias at the Conclave of 1989, held in Washington, DC.

An impressive crystal award of nearly 2 feet in height was presented to Hank in 1989 and to Jared this July. Both these symbols of devotion to Brotherly Love will be highlighted in display in a refurbished chapter library at 4028 Walnut Street in the near future. Further, accompanying Jared's Honor was a \$6,000 check from the SPE Educational Foundation payable to the Reflect Organization in support of its worthy efforts.

Jared recently reported that an anonymous donor matched that check; because of SigEp, Reflect has earned \$12,000.

At the September 15th alumni meeting, both Tony Krumbhaar, '13, and Jared were elected to the Pennsylvania Delta Foundation board.

CHAPTER EVENT

Alumni Weekend Gathering was a Success

For those of you on the East Coast, you know the weather was a rainy, wet mess this past Spring. Thankfully for Penn Alumni Weekend there was plenty of sun for a great day of catching up with old friends! The turnout this year was fantastic and we had alumni representing more than 10 different graduation years, spanning 7 different decades.

You may recognize some of the participating names including: **Jared Fenton '17, Dustin Klein '16, Tony Krumbhaar '12, Tim Games '84, Rob Fuller '99, Dan Rosen '99, Dan Olson '99, Neil Batiancila '99, Randy Hsia '99, Saam Farhang '99, Mark Lieberman '69, Mike Izhaky '94, Henry Wilewski '59, Aram Jerrehian '55, Earl Conway '54, Conrad Eberstein '65, Rod Vaughn '53, and Clarke Glennon '55.**

Conrad and his "Society of Olde Phartes" gathered after the event for an evening soiree at the Dockside apartments of Irene McNeil and Clarke Glennon.

In all good fun, this "Society of Olde Phartes" is on the Penn Police most wanted list for raising hell on campus since 1953 and have been seen hiding out at the Chapter House during Alumni



Right to Left: Aram Jerrehian, '55; Earl Conway, '54; Conrad Eberstein, '65; Rod Vaughn, '53; and Clarke Glennon, '55



Left Front to Back: Neil Batiancila '99, Randy Hsia '99, Saam Farhang '99; on Right Front to Back: Rob Fuller '99, Dan Rosen '99; Dan Olson '99"

Gathering for over 65 years! That's really something isn't it? I think that is representative of what we've all enjoyed most about being brothers and alumni of Sigma Phi Epsilon, seeing our friendship evolve and expand over the years as if time stands still.

The class of '99 had their 20th reunion and had 6 alumni represent their class at the event. The group met at the Ashton Cigar bar in Center City Friday night before heading to

out for dinner and drinks at McGillin's. Many of them stopped by the house on Saturday and met up again Saturday evening at Distrito before heading to their class event at the City Tap House. Rob Fuller also toured the Philadelphia Zoo on Saturday with Neil Batiancila, Chief Development Officer at the zoo, to share their passion/experiences/efforts in wildlife conservation.

As always, we are eternally grateful to all our alumni and were happy to see many of you at this great event! Please share any stories and/or pictures from your homecoming visit on Penn's campus. We'd love to hear from you.

Thank you!
Fraternally, The Pennsylvania Delta Foundation Board

ALUMNI TRIP

Safari in 2020 with Penn Delta

The Penn Delta Foundation is truly excited for the upcoming 2020 African Safari through Africa 360 Travel founded by our own **Rob Fuller '99**.

We only have a few spots left for this South Africa & Zimbabwe safari adventure from July 18 - August 1, 2020. We have a great group of alumni registered and we've even extended the invitation to our undergraduates.

This safari is packed full of wildlife encounters and includes spectacular conservation activities. Guests will participate in an elephant collaring or rhino experience with a



wildlife vet team, experience thrilling Big Five game drives, visit Victoria Falls (Wonder of the World), feed orphaned elephants, safari on foot, explore an ancient sand forest, track endangered Painted Wolves from the BBC's Dynasties series, canoe the Zambezi River and much more!

For full itinerary and pricing, please call Cathryn Gabor at (205) 790-7040 or email cathryn@afrika360travel.com.

Africa 360 Travel proudly donates 100% of agency profits for the preservation of Africa's wildlife. www.africa360travel.com

CHAPTER FLASHBACK

Photos from Brother Frank Barrett '65

Thanks to Brother Frank Barrett '65 who shared these flashback photos and captions on Facebook. Do you have old Penn Delta photos to share? Email them in to alumninews@affinityconnection.com!



Here you'll see the yearbook "Class" of 1965! (This photo was taken AFTER the formal Penn yearbook photo)

Front row (seated, Left to Right): Jack Slipka, Connie Eberstein, Jim Spendiff, Marilyn, Ed Plow, Ralph Wilson, Allan Fox, Dave Woodyatt ("How much wood could a Woodyatt yat if a Woodyatt could yat wood?")

Second row, standing: Brad Price, Bill Schilling, Gary Russell, Dane Scott, Mike Cassidy, Hank Glaser, Ray Roy, Bill Bateman, Cal Bamford, Roger Pelham, and Skip Dahlgren.

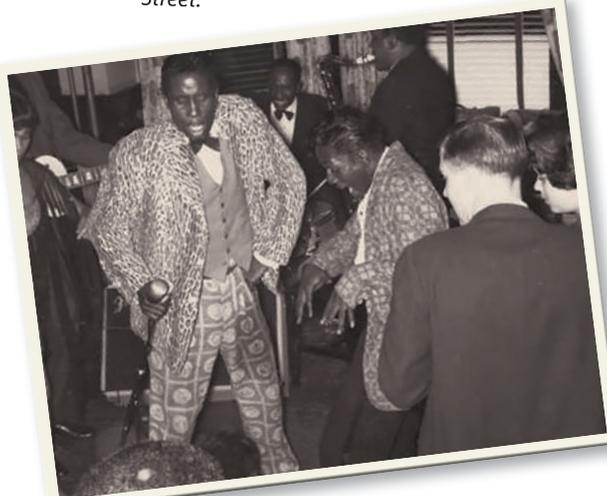
Back row: Tom Post, Charlie Fisler, Harry Vellines, Dick Fuke, Bill Gemmill, Lew Nelson, Paul Sottnek, Dallas Smith, and Frank Barrett. George Wolf was known as "The Invisible Man," so does not appear.



Pictured here are Brothers Roger Ross '64, John Oswald '60 and Ralph Wilson, '64, in the elegant basement bar at 3909 Spruce Street.



While at Penn in the early 1960s, I shot a ton of black-and-white photos of my Penn Delta brothers, and now I'd like to send them to those folks. For instance, here's Sig Ep Theodore McKelden (then mayor of Baltimore) with Conrad Eberstein on the right.



Who could forget Screamin' Jay Hawkins at 3909 Spruce, circa 1962-63. "I Put a Spell on You...!"