

ALUMNI SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM NEWS *Fall 1999*

- ◆ **Three awards granted for 1999-2000**
- ◆ **Print of Chapter House at 57 Second Street for \$1,000 contributors from classes prior to 1960**
- ◆ **Fund up to \$133,000, with no contributions since early 1999**
- ◆ **Fund raising on hold until Chapter's future more secure**

1999-2000 Scholarships Awarded To Brian Coffin, Brett Witherell and Sean O'Bryan

The Scholarship Committee for the Delta Chapter Theta Chi Fraternity Scholarship fund was happy to announce to the alumni at the June annual meeting of the Delta Theta Chi Corporation that scholarships were being awarded for the 1999-2000 school year to three brothers from the class of 2000 – Brian Coffin, Brett Witherell and Sean O'Bryan. Committee member Rich Bollam '66 commented "It was great to be able to afford three awards this year because Brian, Brett and Sean are all very deserving candidates. The level of alumni support for this program has been more than any of us ever expected."

Brian P. Coffin is a native of Topsfield, in northeastern Massachusetts. He has maintained a 3.8 GPA as a materials engineering major and is in his fifth year at Rensselaer. During the year prior to the spring 1999 semester he was on co-op with GE in Lynn, Mass. In January, 1999 he was elected President of the House and had the difficult task of trying to keep the brotherhood together during the difficult aftermath of the December, 1998 hazing incident. Commenting on his scholarship, Brian notes "**Times can be tough at college even without all the problems at the House this last year, but this scholarship really helps me get through it – thanks a lot!**"

Brett R. Witherell hails from Westfield, Massachusetts, and is majoring in industrial management engineering. He is currently the Delta Chapter Treasurer, and was formerly Kitchen Steward and Kitchen Manager. He has worked closely with Brian Coffin during the difficult last two semesters. He has earned three varsity football letters and was recently nominated for the Rensselaer football all-decade team. Last spring and summer Brett was in a co-op position with Husky Injection Molding in Pittsfield, Mass. He comments "**I can't believe how fast the scholarship fund has grown in the past two years. If everything gets back on track, I can see the fund growing to where almost every brother with financial need could receive an award his senior year!**"

Sean P. O'Bryan comes to Rensselaer from North Tonawanda, New York, just outside Buffalo. He is a management major with a concentration in economics. He is currently on co-op with GE in Atlanta, Georgia, and last spring he was studying in the Netherlands for a semester abroad. In Delta Chapter he has served as Rush Chairman and has been on numerous E-boards. When Sean returned home last June to find out he had been selected for an award he exclaimed "**Delta Chapter has already added so much to my college experience – this is just unbelievable – our alumni are great!**"

Print of 57 Second Street for all Pre-1960 \$1,000 Contributors

You may recall that **Kurt Woodward '75** completed an impressive black and white rendering of the Chapter House at 2100 Burdett Avenue in 1998. This year he continued his artistic endeavors and completed a similar sketch of 57 Second Street in downtown Troy, which served as Delta's Chapter House between 1921 and 1959. We all owe "Woody" a huge Thank You!

Thanks to our Supporters!

Over the period from October 1996 (when this fund was first established at Rensselaer), through September 30, 1999, the Scholarship Fund has grown to over \$133,000 due to the contributions from 148 Delta Chapter alumni. The Delta Theta Chi Corporation Directors and the active brothers extend sincere thanks to all of these generous alumni. In addition, we would like to extend special thanks to the following alumni whose giving to date has already reached one of our lifetime *Leadership Contributor* categories.

Dusty Rhodes Society

(Lifetime contributions of \$25,000 and over)

Scholarship Sponsors

(Lifetime contributions of \$2,500 - \$4,999)

Sheldon Roberts (1948)
Everett Molony (1963)
Charles Tracy (1964)
Greg Hughes (1967)
Sergei Yevich (1968)
Greg Seleman (1972)
Richard Spillane (1972)
Kenneth Schmalz (1976)

Scholarship Benefactors

(Lifetime contributions of \$10,000 - \$24,999)

Arthur Wills (1955)

Scholarship Leaders

(Lifetime contributions of \$1,000 - \$2,499)

Robert Lukens (1938)
Eugene Fuller (1957)
Robert McIntosh (1960)
William Stitt (1963)
Gordon McIntosh (1964)
Joseph Bonn (1965)
Richard Bollam (1966)
William Follit (1966)
Roland Garlinghouse (1966)
Terry Jones (1966)
Harry Calhoun (1967)
John Casteras (1967)
Nick Donofrio (1967)
Kurt Hollasch (1967)
Bill Fernandez (1968)
Richard Mowrey (1968)

Scholarship Patrons

(Lifetime contributions of \$5,000 - \$9,999)

Catherine Whittemore, in honor of her son Allan (1961)

Scholarship Sustainers

(Testamentary contributions of \$5,000 and over)

Ray Rumanowski (1973)

(If any alumnus has contributed a total of \$1,000 or more to the Scholarship Fund and has not yet received a print of his year's Chapter House, please call Rich Bollam (work # 800-724-6700 ext. 303) and he will mail one out to you.)

Fundraising on hold until future of Delta Chapter more secure

As was mentioned in our letter to alumni of this Spring, the Delta Theta Chi Corporation Board feels it is inappropriate to ask alumni to contribute to the Scholarship Fund until the uncertainties related to last December's hazing incident are resolved. Hopefully the Chapter's current tenuous situation will get turned around over the next two or three years, and we can then start to rebuild the enthusiasm that this program had received up through last winter.

Reiterating a point that has been described in previous correspondence to you, this fund does not just disappear if our current problems force Delta Chapter into a period of inactivity at RPI. The written agreement with RPI that created this fund provides that the earnings from the fund will continue to go to Theta Chi brothers for three years after any such inactive period starts; then will go to someone active in Greek life after that; but will *immediately* revert to Theta Chi brothers whenever Delta Chapter is reactivated in the future. Furthermore, if RPI's annual endowment earnings continue to exceed the annual award amounts (which has been the case each year thusfar), the fund will continue to grow even in years when no new contributions are added to it.