

**Annual Corporation
Board Meeting
Sunday, June 11, 2006**

10 a.m. at the House (2100 Burdett Ave)

We encourage alumni to attend the meeting. **Jim Schertzer '98** and **Kevin Solli '02** have been nominated for 4-year terms on the board of directors.

THE DELTA DIAL

May 2006

Delta Chapter of Theta Chi Fraternity at Rensselaer

Alumni Profile

Spotlight On: Matt Patricia '96 Scores an NFL Super Bowl Ring and a Visit to the White House

You've got to admit, it's a long way - in more than just miles - from RPI's Jonsson Engineering Center to the 50 yard line at Gillette Stadium in Foxborough, Massachusetts and the White House, but **Matt Patricia '96** has managed to make the journey. Matt enters his third season in the NFL and his first as the Patriots' linebacker coach, after spending the 2005 season as the Super Bowl Champion Patriots' assistant offensive line coach. He joined the Patriots in 2004 after spending six seasons in the college ranks, most notably as an offensive graduate assistant at Syracuse for three seasons and two years as the defensive line coach at Amherst College.

Just before graduating RPI in December '96 with an Aero degree, Matt spent that fall as RPI's Assistant Offensive Line coach, working with Delta Chapter Alumni Board member **Ray Moran '95**, then the Offensive Line coach. Upon graduation, Matt accepted

a fine engineering position in Syracuse, but eventually "got the itch" to get back into coaching. Matt coached for the semi-pro Syracuse Storm, Syracuse University, and Amherst College.

Early on Matt mastered computerized techniques for breaking down opponents' films, making scouting reports and preparing statistical analyses, which made him a Subject Matter Expert in the evolving field of sports technology. By combining this with his eye for subjective details from hands-in coaching, Matt became "the complete package" - the kind pro organizations look for.

So when Matt sent out resumes to Division I and NFL teams in January 2004, his credentials proved he was ready for the next level. The call from the Patriots came just after they had won Superbowl XXXVIII. Matt interviewed for the Offensive Assistant Coach/Quality Control position, which included a "very intense" interview with Head Coach Bill Belichick designed to elicit how he thought and how he approached problems. Two days later the position was his.

The Patriots' victory in Super Bowl XXXIX earned Matt a Super Bowl ring and a

congratulatory visit to the White House. Matt now moves to coaching defense for 2006, and is working with linebackers as a member of the staff of highly respected Defensive Coordinator Dean Pees.



Matt Patricia '96 and President George W. Bush during congratulatory visit to the White House.

Matt feels that his time in Troy taught him to work hard and be goal-oriented as he balanced football sessions, being a leader of Delta Chapter (Rush Chairman, VP, IFC Rep, IFC Officer), and maintaining his grades. We wish Matt continued success and will watch Patriots games with a special interest, knowing that "one of our own" is helping to make it all happen.

Second Century

Delta Chapter Looks Toward Its Second Century, Ready to Face New Challenges

Paul Silban '71

The Alumni Board and active brotherhood of Delta Chapter have been working for almost a year now to proactively address issues regarding its long term needs and help

Theta Chi remain the premier fraternity on campus.

This is proving to be a challenging time for all fraternities nationwide, highlighting the need for fraternities to compete with new and attractive non-Greek living arrangements as well as to continue advocating the unique and rewarding aspects of fraternity life, and accommodating an alcohol-free environment.

As we approach our Centennial celebration in 2008, Delta Chapter has

retained Affinity Connections, a specialist in fraternity capital campaigns and communication enhancement, to undertake a number of activities. First, you should have all received a questionnaire from Affinity, polling alumni sentiments concerning the house, its future, their interest in remaining involved and an outline of the projected capital campaign. Although the feasibility of the capital campaign awaits the results of your

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Undergraduate Report

Active Brothers Keep Busy Dunk Tank on Campus Raises \$1100 for Relay for Life

By David Walker '08

Hello, I am Delta Chapter's new president, and I'm excited to be able to tell you about recent events at the house. The past six months in Delta Chapter history have been quite active and interesting. On April 20th, we had a dunk tank to raise money for Relay for Life as our community service and philanthropy project. We split the costs of the event with Pi Beta Phi. We raised \$510, with

each house donating \$255. Delta Chapter's combined Relay for Life activities raised over \$1100 and involved the participation of 18 brothers in the on-campus events. Our team for Relay was organized by brother Patrick Morse, who single-handedly raised over \$500 and served as our team captain.

In other news, brother Zach Freeman was thought to have been elected Grand Marshall in one of the closest elections in RPI history. There was a tie in the first vote during GM week, forcing a runoff election which Zach won by 70 votes. Unfortunately, just as we are going to press, the Judicial Board at RPI has determined that the runoff was not necessary, and the position of GM is now being awarded



Undergrad
President **David
Walker '08**

to the other candidate. We are proud that Zach represented us so well in this important political process at RPI.

Our Sweethearts Weekend and Parents Weekend events were well attended and received many compliments.

Everyone has been spending a lot of time outside with barbeques and volleyball. We're finishing the year on a positive note and are looking forward to continuing that outlook for next year.

Second Century

(Continued from Page 1)

input in order to be confirmed, it seems clear that our chapter house itself will need to be revitalized and even somewhat restructured physically, to remain competitive with other houses and non-Greek living options. Therefore, we'd still like to receive your comments back on the questionnaire, if you haven't already done so. Second, you should have received information about the annual alumni pledge drive, the administration of which is now also being handled through Affinity. We're pleased to report that we have had a very strong response from our alumni so far this year, for which we're extremely grateful. We urge those who haven't yet lent a "helping hand" to take this moment to be counted among that number.

Please send your contribution to:

**Delta Chapter of Theta Chi Fraternity
at Rensselaer
Alumni Relations Processing Center
P.O. Box 700
Albert Lea, MN 56007-8007**

Finally, the Delta Dial has undergone an enhancement through the help of Affinity and a dedicated AlumniBoard, with full color printing, new article styles, and improved timeliness. We appreciate the positive feedback we've received and always welcome your suggestions.

The Centennial is a unique opportunity that can be used to look forward with confidence as well as fondly look back. There

are a number of ideas being discussed, many of which will require alumni involvement to bring about. For example, with micro-publishing now available, the publication of a coffee table book about Delta Chapter would be an excellent way to commemorate the entry into our second century. But that will require writers from different eras to lend a hand and pen their anecdotes and contribute their photos. A universal reunion would be another project that would be particularly apt, but also would require alumni involvement to execute properly. Any alumni or active brothers interested in becoming involved should send their contact information or ideas to **Lew French '83**, at texdoc@optonline.net or **Paul Silhan '71** at paulsilhan@hotmail.com.

Alumni Updates

40s

James Murray, M.D. '48
(3590 Round Bottom Rd #110915,
Cincinnati, OH 45244-3026;
jmurraymd@comcast.net) Still traveling in
motor home. Left from FL (4/12) for the west
coast. Scheduled to travel from Budapest,
Hungary to Amsterdam in September.

Richard (Dick) Goodspeed '49
(2237 Hurstview Dr., Hurst, TX 76053;
rgoods5050@aol.com) Retired in 1990. Do
some editorial consulting and volunteer
editing. Try to ski three times a winter.
Graduated from U.S. Naval Academy. Earned
Navy wings, master's from Princeton.

50s

Jack Evans '53 and '54
(95 Sylvan Ln., Weston, MA 02493; john.a.evans@alum.mit.edu) I return every year to
RPI to share experiences with the **Gordon
Kilby '53** table of friends. Please contact
Skip Charles '55; his humanitarian project
provides free eyeglasses/services to people
around the world.

Alumni Updates

60s

Rob (Bob) McIntosh '60

(24 Highland Ln., Ipswich, MA 01938; wrjmci@aol.com) Retirement is a joy and very busy. Jane and I winter in Tarpon Springs, FL and summer in Ipswich, MA.

Allan Whittemore '61

(28320 Grand Duke, Farmington Hills, MI 48334; whittemore_3@sbcglobal.net) I am a retired GM engineer.

Bruce Atwood '62

(255 North Rd., #20, Chelmsford, MA 01824; bruce.atwood@analog.com) I plan to sail the coast of Maine for three months this summer. Any brothers up there should get in touch. **Stitt '63**, you owe me a lobster. (978) 256-1328.

James Michael Clapper BS '68, MS '70

(108 Carriage Ct., Brentwood, TN 37027 615-587-7588; j-d-clapper@comcast.net) Two sons, two grandchildren. Recently accepted presidency of Aladdin TempRite in Nashville, TN. New home address.

John (Jack) Hart '69

(81095 Shinnecock Hills, La Quinta, CA 92253; jackmhart@aol.com) Currently retired in La Quinta, CA and Carbondale, CO. Second marriage, three kids by first. I play a lot of tennis and golf.

70s

Mark Rice '71

(471 Arsenal St., #N, Watertown, MA 02472; mrice@babson.edu) Became Dean of the Graduate School at Babson College five years ago. I regularly see **John Soron '71**, and **Bill Stitt '63** and **Jan Pirrong '69**. I'm planning on attending the reunion dinner.

80s

Tom Walsh '81

(3603 SE Stark Street, Portland, Oregon 97214-3155; tbw713@comcast.net)

Tom Walsh '81 and Michelle Furze were married July 2, 2005, in the crater of a volcano in Mt. Tabor Park in Portland, OR. The following brothers attended the festivities:

Todd Heusner '80, **Doug Willard '81**, **Matt Dwyer '82**, **Tom Fenniman '82**, **Lew (Tex) French '83**, and **Karl Seelbach '83**.

Karl Seelbach, Jr., '83

(108 Bella Vista Way, Vallejo, CA 94590-

3447; karlyta@scrserv.com) **Karl Seelbach, Jr. '83** and Lyta Hamm were married June 13, 2005, on Stinson Beach, California. During the reception, Troupe Ala Nar, a local belly dancing group, and Grapefruit Ed, a local band, performed (<http://www.archive.org/audio/etree-details-db.php?id=28676>). The following brothers attended the spectacle: **Bob (Ram) Filipek '80**, **Fred Flint '80**, **Todd Heusner '80**, **Tom Walsh '81**, **Matt Dwyer '82**, **Tom Fenniman '82**, **George Sauter '82**, **Steve Stichler '82**, **Guy Ford '83**, **Lew (Tex) French '83**, **Chris Reilley '83**, **Thomas Hersey '84**, and **Tim Kusters '84**.

John Lonati '85

(2 Phaeton Ln., Franklin, MA 02038; jmlonati@comcast.net) Living in Franklin, MA with his wife Marianne and three children. Now the Operations Manager for the Northeast Region for Frito-Lay. Met up with Meg and **John Nebens '85** in San Antonio.

Matthew Douglas '89

(29 Flintlock Court, Bernardsville, NJ 07924; matthew.douglas@andrew.com) Just moved to Bernardsville, NJ in January. Been working for Andrew Corporation the last five years and doing lots of business travel to China, Italy and Romania. Have three children.

90s

Tony Vartanian '93

(65-15 38th Ave., #3V, Woodside, NY 11377;

tonyvartanian@hotmail.com) Living in New York City. Have been focused the last 5 years on my firm Cordsel Technologies - www.cordsel.com. Cordsel is a leading provider of strategic, business first commerce and technology solutions.

Pete D'Aloia '94

(52 Fieldstone Dr., Gansevoort, NY 12831; jack2cam@juno.com) Family is doing great, work is good, Steelers won the Super Bowl, and the track season is upon us, cannot get better than that. The 5th Annual D'Aloia Pre-Summer Bash is Saturday, June 10; stop by.

Angelo Vissas '97

(22 Pickett Street, Beverly, MA 01915; vissas.a@bge.battentfeld.com) Married last September and just purchased a new home. Note new address.

Tim Bamford '99

(3833 Sally Ln., CRP Christi, TX 78414-5810; randy@radarinsulation.com) Still in the Air Force down in Corpus Christi, TX as an instructor pilot. I'm getting married in October and no kids yet.

Michael Matela '98

(1340 Buckingham Ave., Norfolk, VA 23508; Ramtela@cox.net) My wife Lara and I would like to announce the birth of our second son, Ramsey Tyler. We just finished our contract serving in the United States Air Force, and currently run our own construction business Ramtela Remodeling and Renovation. We currently live in Norfolk, VA.

In Memorium

Ken Morris '72

Brother Ken Morris '72 passed away last November after several years of failing health. A memorial service was held in his home state of West Virginia on April 8, and in attendance were **Marty Strauss '71**, **Denny Allen '71**, **Ken Falls '70**, **Larry Allocco '70** and **Rich Mowrey '68**. The Palmer and Sam Memorial Fund was created by Ken's wife Linda to help their two young sons, and Marty was able to hand over a sizable gift on behalf of many, many of Ken's fraternity brothers from the late '60's to the early '70's. Anyone wishing to contribute now can contact Marty at martin.strauss@ngc.com. "Ratman" was a bigger-than-life character, and he left behind not only many friends but also an incredible number of memorable stories. We will always remember him.

John H. Griffis '55

John H. Griffis, 72, died January, 29,

2006, in Oristano, Sardinia, (Italy).

Beloved husband, father of four sons, and grandfather of six. He was a resident of both Troy and Porto Cervo.

He graduated from Troy High School 1951 and RSI in 1956 with a five-year architectural degree.

He played four years of varsity lacrosse and football. Mr. Griffis was elected to the All America Lacrosse Team for each of his four years under legendary coach Ned Harkness. He was also elected lifetime president of RPI's Class of '55, as well as the Athletic Hall of Fame for both Troy High and RPI.

Mr. Griffis served in the U.S. Marine Corps. as a second lieutenant. He later moved to Rome, Italy, forming McMillian, Griffis & Milleto (MGM) & Interplan with projects in Africa, Europe and New York.

He was an excellent sailor, navigating the Mediterranean, North Sea and Atlantic Ocean.

Alumni President Report

Upcoming Delta Chapter Centennial Cause for Brainstorming; Members Look to the Future and How Chapter Will Thrive

New Greek Life Initiatives Draw Mixed Reactions But Will Benefit the Chapter

Greetings again. As always I hope that this edition of the Delta Dial finds everyone doing well. Since our last correspondence there has been significant progress on several fronts. Three areas I want to highlight are our upcoming Centennial; a re-cap of our annual off-site retreat; and the newly announced Greek Life Initiatives from the Administration of RPI. In **Paul Silhan '71's** article, you will read of our efforts for our Centennial in 2008. We are looking at this as an opportunity to springboard the House into the next 100 years.

We had another successful annual retreat at the Sagamore on Lake George. This was the largest retreat gathering so far (27 participants), as we extended invitations to include a larger group of actives plus invited Bob Baney from Affinity Connection to be our special guest. The meeting succeeded in two areas: 1) a better understanding of the history and the evolution of the identity of the House throughout its life, and 2) that we must embrace the new realities of campus life especially as they relate to alcohol and the different expectations of today's incoming freshman.

As many of you might have seen in the recent news or in communications sent to you by RPI, the administration, and the Dean's office in particular, just announced three new "Greek Initiatives":

- 1) Greek housing to be placed under the same rules as dormitories regarding underage drinking on campus. Social events with alcohol may only be held at approved off-campus, third-party locations.
- 2) The start of rush is to be delayed to mid-October, with member

- education beginning in the second semester.
- 3) Greek organizations to be required to have a live-in advisor, similar to an RA in the dormitories.

As you might imagine, there were strong reactions from the Greek community regarding these initiatives. From Delta Chapter's



perspective, we welcome the alcohol initiative as it would level the playing field for us during rush. Also, the change in the rush calendar would create a more comfortable pace for the recruitment process, both for freshmen and for our undergraduate brothers.

As we go to press, RPI has just issued an announcement rescinding all the deadlines they had imposed for the implementation of these initiatives. Your alumni board members and advisors have been very involved in these events over the last several weeks, and rest assured we will continue to play an integral role in their progress going forward.

Fraternally,

Greg Wilmott '87
President, Delta Theta Chi Corporation



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Matt Patricia '96 Earns Super Bowl Ring and Visit to White House as Patriots Assistant Coach in Super Bowl XXXIX! Details on Page 1!

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