

# ALUMNI WEEKEND 1998

**September 25-27**

*Please join us for the following activities:*

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25**

**8:00 p.m.-midnight — Reception for returning alumni**

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26**

**1:30 p.m. — Football game (RPI vs. WPI)**

**6:00-7:00 p.m. — Cocktails**

**7:00 p.m. — Dinner**

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27**

**10:00 a.m. — Brunch**

## Report On The Delta Theta Chi Corporation Annual Meeting, June 7, 1998

The annual meeting of the alumni corporation was held on Sunday morning, June 7, at the chapter house. Ev Maloney '63 and George Quigley '85 stepped down from the board after serving out their three-year terms. Thanks to both for their hard work and dedication. Two new board appointees were elected, and new officers were seated. The current board of directors for the next year comprises:

**ALUMNI**

Paul DiChristina '91, president  
Pete Gillies '89, VP  
\*Nick Humber '63, secretary

Rich Bollam '66  
\*Ray Rumanowski '73  
Lou Takacs '57

**ACTIVE**

Rich Coscia  
Matt Dias  
Marc Hodakowski

*\*New board members*

In addition, there are appointed positions that serve to advise and assist the actives and alumni in the various matters involved in running an active fraternity. The time and effort contributed by these brothers is sincerely appreciated.

- Alumnus Adviser . . . . . Will Headon '88
- CIP Fund Manager . . . . . W. Everett Maloney '63
- Dusty Fund Coordinator . . . . . Rob McIntosh '60
- Financial Adviser and Corporation Treasurer . . . . . Rich Boroway '73
- Faculty Adviser . . . . . Mark Rice '71
- Delta Dial Coordinator . . . . . Steve Schriber '80
- Maintenance Adviser . . . . . Joe Knapik '92

### Delta Chapter On The World Wide Web

[www.rpi.edu/dept/union/ifc/theta\\_chi/public\\_html/home.html](http://www.rpi.edu/dept/union/ifc/theta_chi/public_html/home.html)

Theta Chi National can be found at [www.thetachi.org](http://www.thetachi.org).

## Alumni Write

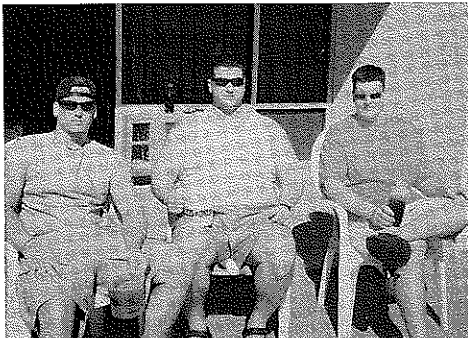
"I helped organize Theta Chi chapters at the University of North Carolina-Asheville campus and Mars Hill College," writes CHARLES L. KESSLER '37, who's retired from Alcoa International. Carl makes his home at 14 E. Baird Mountain Rd., Asheville, NC 28804-1103.

After being widowed for three years, WILLIAM L. VAN SCHOONHOVEN '50 wed Barbara Warner Stevens on November 22, 1997. Send congratulations to Beau and Barbara at 84 Windsor Ave., Buffalo, NY 14209.

CONRAD K. EASTMAN '52 sold his majority interest in Western Maine Nurseries, Inc., earlier this year, making his partner the sole owner. "At the same time I resigned as president/treasurer. As one friend described me, 'He's a senior citizen on the loose.' Actually, I've become involved in the Mount Washington Valley Economic Council based in Conway, New Hampshire, and reopened the consulting practice I closed in 1974 to go into the family nursery business. I'm finding there are plenty of people willing to load you up with volunteer work if you'll allow it." He adds that if any of the "old crowd" is visiting in Maine or the Mount Washington Valley of New Hampshire, they should give a call at 207/935-2894. His address is 195 Main St., Fryeburg, ME 04037.

Retiree ALAN J. BAYLEY '55 and his wife, Barbara, recently moved into the home they built at 9015 E. Emerald Dr., Sun Lakes, AZ 85248. "My golf game is beginning to come around after being waterlogged in northern California," writes Al. He is now retired, and Barbara is working part time at Macy's in Mesa.

"My wife, Shirley, and I recently had a lifestyle change," reports DONALD M. PETERSON '55. "I retired, and she became president of Hood College. I think I got the better deal!" Don can be reached at 401  
*(continued on page four)*



*Nick, Rocco, and Jim enjoying the sun on spring break in Panama City.*

## Parents Weekend Draws Record Crowd

On April 25, Theta Chi held our annual Parents Weekend. The event was attended by over 130 parents, brothers, and sisters of Delta Chapter brothers. This number was our highest turnout in years.

The evening began downstairs with cocktails and hors d'oeuvres. Our two excellent bartenders, Alan Goodrich and Pat Smulligan, made sure no one was thirsty before dinner was served. The first courses were a tasty fruit cup topped with raspberry sherbet and a garden salad. Once the main course was served, family members were treated to a choice of delicious chicken marsala or outstanding London broil. Both dishes were served with twice-baked potatoes and tarragon carrots. Finally, dessert of

chocolate or vanilla cannolis finished off a perfect meal. This entire meal was prepared by master chefs Glenn Arnold and Jason LaTourette. As usual, we had an excellent waiting crew serving dinner. Head waiters Alan Goodrich and Jason Lauer made sure that the entire meal was presented in a professional manner.

Following dinner, everyone returned downstairs for drinks to finish off the night. For some parents, it was their first impression of Theta Chi, and I believe that we worked hard to make sure it was a good impression.

Fraternally yours,  
Brett Witherell, Kitchen Manager

## Sweethearts Weekend Deemed A Success

Theta Chi's annual Sweethearts Weekend took place this year on Saturday, February 21. The event was attended by approximately 75 people who came dressed to impress, some of whom had traveled for hours to spend the weekend. That traveling was well worth it!

The evening started out with cocktails and hors d'oeuvres downstairs. While we waited for dinner to be served, our bartenders, Alan Goodrich and Jim Schertzer, kept everyone happy. Dinner that evening consisted of chicken prosciutto. This dish consisted of sliced breaded chicken breasts rolled up with prosciutto and mozzarella. The chicken was then baked, resulting in a mouth-watering mix of flavors. It was served with pasta and green beans as well as salad and fruit. Dessert consisted of chocolate and vanilla cannolis.

The entire meal was prepared by Nick Silvaggi and Gino Mascolo, who received many compliments about their culinary creation throughout the night.

Our head waiters for the evening were Andrew Powers and Morgan Hamilton. They made sure the entire waiting crew provided excellent service. Following dinner, we returned downstairs for drinks and conversation. In all, Sweethearts Weekend turned out to be a great success.

Fraternally yours,  
Brett Witherell, Kitchen Manager



*All of the seniors posing during Sweethearts.*

## Brothers Undertake Several House Improvements

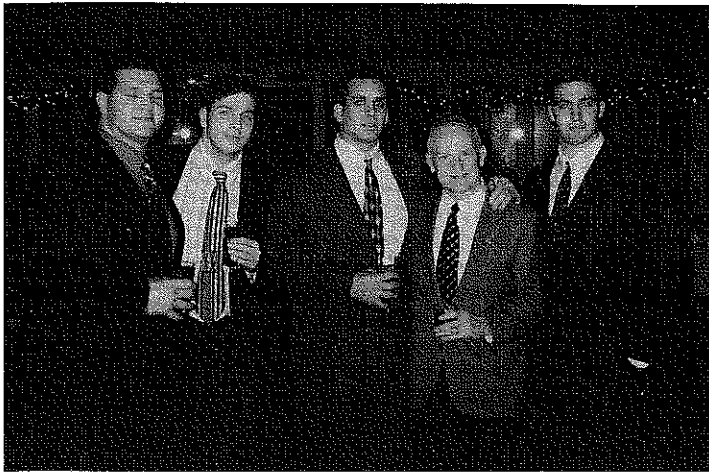
During the spring semester, several problems presented themselves to the house. There was a small leak in the boiler, which was fixed, and the boiler has been running smoothly ever since. One of the sinks in the upstairs bathroom had to be completely replaced. Also, we had the window in the kitchen replaced.

The front door began to sag awhile back, so we had it rehinged and replaced the lock. We feel that these repairs make the house look more presentable. This summer we are having the walls and ceilings in the hallways

replaced. This will be ready in time for the brothers to move in for the fall semester.

Overall, the house has been running very well. Every brother has been doing his part to make the house a great place to live. We are proud of our ongoing maintenance to make this house a more inviting place, and we hope that our improvements will help the house continue to run smoothly in the years to come.

Fraternally yours,  
Dave Gardell, House Manager



Officers and alumni together at the Sagamore retreat.

## Brotherhood Remains Strong

This past semester has been a learning experience for all brothers and pledges. The numbers in the house have been low, but everyone in the house seems to agree that the quality of the brothers will always supersede the quantity of the brothers. Co-ops and internships have depleted our ranks, but with people returning in the fall we should be returning to typical numbers. With only four current seniors leaving and four returning for another semester, the house will be running very smoothly.

Everyone in the house is greatly anticipating next year's rush. There are some new ideas on the table, and, with everyone's support, next year looks to be very promising. The school's rush policy changed in the past year and threw us a curveball, but we have made adjustments accordingly. With some new rush functions and improved participation by all the brothers, this coming year promises to be a good one.

There have been a few money issues because of the low numbers in the house, but with a strict budget and tight planning we have prospered. The brothers have also been able to keep up our great relations with the school and have increased our on-campus involvement.

As I mentioned earlier, four seniors will be leaving the house this spring. Three of them were officers, and all of them gave to the house tremendously and helped the chapter make many positive changes. They didn't always make the easy decision, and the house has benefited from their hard work and desire to improve the house. These brothers will be greatly missed.

Although the number of active brothers has declined, the house has become a tighter entity. We all hope that the numbers will increase, but if they don't, we are all very confident that the house cannot and will not be harmed. Everyone in the house agrees that Theta Chi Delta Chapter was, is, and always will be strong.

Fraternally yours,  
Jim Markovich  
Pledge Marshal

Fraternally yours,  
Marc Hodakowski  
President

## ΘΧ Welcomes 11 New Brothers

We are pleased to announce the induction of 11 new brothers into Delta Chapter of Theta Chi. The new brothers were initiated on April 17, 1998. As in years past, the highlight of the initiation week included the Delta Chapter candle pass. I would like to express how excited I am for the entire class and how extremely proud I am of each and every one of them. Congratulations to the pledge class of '98, and may you have many great experiences and memories within the walls of Delta Chapter.

## New Database Should Help With Rush

As fall rush draws near, Theta Chi Delta Chapter needs to open its doors, diversify, and develop new ways to leave good impressions on the rushees arriving this fall. One way in which we hope to accomplish this is by creating a database that will serve both brothers and prospective pledges. The database, which should be operational sometime this summer, will include over 500 Theta Chi brothers who have attended RPI and will classify them by name, home phone, work phone, wife's name, major, and place of work. This system will be explained in detail to all parents of rushees through a newsletter that will specifically state its benefits and long-term goals for individuals who are contemplating eventual brotherhood at Theta Chi Delta Chapter.

Involvement of parents is so important

when it comes to rush. Statistics show that almost 60 percent of students who don't end up joining fraternities choose not to because of parental opinions. Can we blame the parents for thinking this way? No, because many fraternities of today have *Animal House* stereotypes. All brothers have to work together, develop new, innovative ideas, and strive for long-term achievements. That means year-round work on making our house a better place to live.

It is vital that Theta Chi start painting a positive picture for parents. I think the database concept, the present annual scholarship fund, and many other ideas will have a profound effect on the parents and encourage them to take a second look.

Sean O'Bryan  
Rush Chairman

### Pledge Class Of '98

Pat Casey  
Pat Smulligan  
Shane Sportman  
John Postulka  
Mike Cordero  
Jason Consoli  
Tim Westcott  
Keith Bedell  
Alan Habib  
Bill Ryan  
Mike Pinto

SEND IN YOUR NEWSFORM! The success of this newsletter depends, in part, on the participation of our alumni. Please take a moment to fill out your newsform and return it to the address on page four. Include your latest news, news of brothers with whom you've kept in touch, and maybe also one or two of your fondest memories of Theta Chi. We'll look forward to sharing your news in the next issue of *Δ Dial*.

## Alumni Write

## Alumni Scholarship Program News

(continued from page two)

Rosemont Ave., Frederick, MD 21701, and he invites friends to stop by for a game of golf.

RONALD W. SLAYTON '59 receives mail at CMR 414, Box 1259, APO AE 09173.

Stay in touch with KENNETH A. SCHMALZ '76 at 813 Yorkshire Rd., Neenah, WI 54956.

In January, JOHN M. NEBENS '85 went to work for J.C. Bradford & Company as a broker in the San Antonio office. Look him up at 142 Park Dr., San Antonio, TX 78212.

E-mail reaches MARC D. DICKIE '88 at Marc\_Dickie@hotmail.com, and "snail mail" at 7 Kristen Court, East Greenbush, NY 12061. He is employed by Genesys Consulting Services, Inc., as a technical analyst.

After almost eight years at Andersen Consulting, DOUGLAS C. McCONNELL '90 decided to "jump ship." He's now working at Young & Rubicam, Inc., one of the largest advertising and marketing communications companies. "Now that I'm not traveling all the time, I can actually be found in Manhattan at 121 E. 12th St., #6A, New York, NY 10003." His e-mail address is douglas\_mcconnell@yr.com.

"Things are great out here!" pens JOHN W. HILL '92 from 11683 W. Powers Ave., Littleton, CO 80127. "My wife, Carrie, and I have been married for almost four years and just had our first child. His name is Cody John Hill. Mother and son are doing fine. The skiing is great, and the mountain biking is even better!"

Please note this new address for Andrea and BRYAN McDONALD '95: 2808 Bluejay Dr., Cedar Park, TX 78613.

### DECEASED

We regret to report the death of the following alumni:

CHARLES H. FAWKNER '44, May 20, 1995

JOSHUA H. SKINNER '36, March 13, 1998

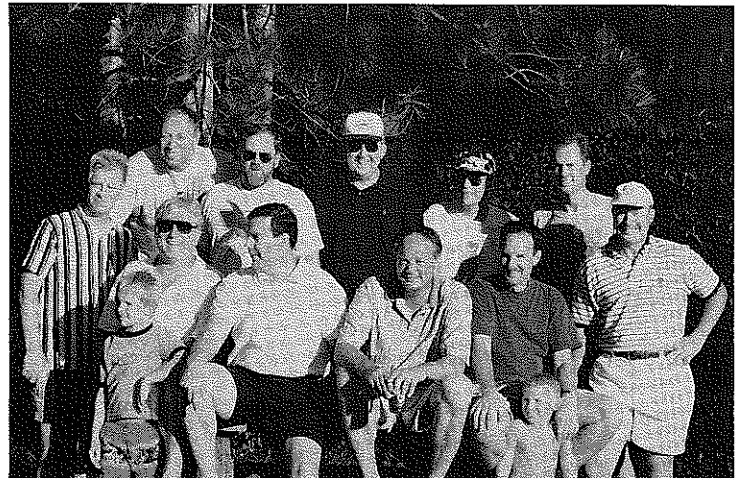
JOHN W. STEBBINS '40, July 1995

**Δ DIAL** is published regularly by the Delta Chapter of Theta Chi Fraternity at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute for its members and friends. News contributions and pictures are always welcome and should be sent to Theta Chi Fraternity, Alumni Records Office, P.O. Box 906, Schenectady, NY 12301-0906.

Because we have quite a lot of news about the alumni scholarship program, we plan to send you a detailed report in a separate mailing in October. Briefly, however, the scholarship committee was happy to report at the June annual alumni corporation meeting that contributions to this program had passed the \$60,000 level and that we therefore were able to award two scholarships for the 1998-'99 school year. The recipients are

two brothers in the class of '99, Richard Coscia and Matthew Dias. Rich and Matt will be receiving their award certificates at the Homecoming dinner on September 26, and we will tell you more about them in the October mailing. The October mailing will also list all of the alumni who have supported this program to date and will give special thanks to those alumni whose total giving has reached any of our leadership levels.

7th annual  
"Pignic in  
the Park"  
Saratoga Park  
July 1998



These "pignics" started up a few years after the last of the traditional pig roasts held in the '80s. This one was attended by many early-'70s Theta Chis and their families, including (front row, left to right) Curt Busch '76 (in sunglasses), Bob Baron '72, Ray Rumanowski '73, Kevin Gleason '76, Rich Boroway '73; (back row) Mark Dore '75, Don Allocco '74, Bill McIntyre '74, Greg Seleman '72, Jim Dall '76, and Kurt Woodward '75. Absent from picture: Dan Moellman '74, Max Kurbjun '75, and Steve Myers '75.

## Many Return For Reunion Weekend

In connection with RPI's Reunion Weekend on June 5-7, Theta Chi brothers from the classes of '68 and '73 (and friends) got together for several events outside of RPI's full slate of activities. Rich Bollam '66 graciously hosted 16 brothers and wives at Albany Country Club for golf on Friday morning; that evening the class of '68 and brothers from '66 and '67 got together for dinner in Troy, as did the class of '73 separately. Both groups then met at the Burdette Avenue fraternity house for some low-key socializing until the wee hours. (Many thanks to the five undergraduate brothers staying at the house this summer for all their help.) Ray Rumanowski '73 had a picnic at his house in West Sand Lake all afternoon Saturday, which many local brothers and families from the early '70s attended. Most of the brothers in '68 and '73 then attended a dinner Saturday night with their RPI classmates.

In Troy for the weekend were Jim Clapper, Bill Fernandez, Dave McNierney, Rich Mowrey, Pete Perucci, Murph Rostker, John

Scacchia, Sergei Yevich, and Joe Zirnheld, class of '68; Bob Baker, Rich Boroway, Dana Covill, John Lippold, Carl Nasca, Paul Reynolds, and Ray Rumanowski, class of '73; and special guests Rich Bollam '66, Bill Culp '66, Terry Jones '66, Harry Calhoun '67, John Casteras '67, Tom Jones '67, Paul McGlaughlin '67, and Ned VanHeuvel '67.

Following a trend of the last several years, apparently many more Theta Chis came back to RPI for the June Reunion Weekend than have been returning for Homecoming Weekend in October, which was formerly a very popular event. The alumni corporation board acknowledges that different-aged alumni have different interests and that some prefer to come in the fall, so the board will continue to support both the June Reunion Weekend and the fall Homecoming Weekend. As always, it is courteous and very helpful to the brothers to let them know if you're planning to attend either event. News on the fall '98 weekend appears elsewhere in the *Dial*.