



NOVEMBER 2013 ➤ VOLUME V

100 YEARS AT CORNELL

SPECIAL FEATURES

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RETURNING COLUMNS

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BEYOND THE COVER...

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OMICRON CELEBRATES 100 YEARS AT CORNELL



100th Celebrants in the Atrium of The Statler

OMICRON CELEBRATES 100 YEARS AT CORNELL



Visiting alumni John DeWitt '65, Lee Leonard '63, Alan Fridkin '65, Janice Ashley, Steve Ashley '62, Bob Miller '62, Beth Mezitt and Wayne Mezitt '64.

Over 250 of the Lambda Chi faithful and their guests celebrated the 100th anniversary of the Omicron Chapter at Cornell from October 18th to October 20th. The official kick off began with a Friday evening reception at the Chapter House on Edgemoor Lane where alumni began gathering to register for the weekend events and checking the guest list to find their contemporaries. Sandwiches were served from the popular local food truck and the weekend was off to a great start.

Saturday morning marked the beginning of the "Big Show" as more brothers and guests began streaming into The Statler Ballroom for a Breakfast Briefing. By the time the presentations began the room was completely filled. Ari Ruben '15, the current Philanthropy Chair, gave the Undergraduate Report. He wowed the audience with the House's fall agenda including rush plans, meeting national goals, a very active community service program, outstanding intramural sports results, a full plate of mixers with The Hill's top sororities and the House's steadily improving GPA that is now above the all fraternity men's average. As one older alumnus remarked, "these guys are exceptional people doing some really great things."

Mike Filiatrault, the President of the ISWZA Alumni As-

sociation, related the strong financial foundation of the Association based on Omicron's high percentage of giving from its alumni base. Over half of our living alumni have a dues record with us while the average donation level among all Cornell fraternities is only 35%.

Mike also emphasized the Alumni Board's commitment to continue working with the university and national to help today's undergrads embrace more responsible social behavior particularly as it relates to underage drinking.

The Capital Campaign Presentation followed Mike's address and it is covered in its entirety in the following article on page 5.

After some free time in the afternoon, the weekend attendees headed to Edgemoor for a reception featuring some wine and cheese, tours of the House and a very interesting collection of memorabilia from over the years. Bus service was then provided to the evening Banquet in the Ballroom at The Statler.

Once again the room was filled to capacity. Invited dignitaries included Susan Murphy, Cornell's Vice President of Student and Academic Services, Travis Apgar, Associ-



Alumni viewing virtual tour of the renovated Chapter House.



Cornell's Susan Murphy and Steve Ashley '62 greet Bob McKinless '48.



James Hunsberger '10, his fiancée, DeAnna D'Attilio and Bill Smith '10 enjoy a Cornell sing-along.



Ralph Wilhelm '67 with Anne and Henry McNulty '69.

ate Dean of Students and Bill Farkas, CEO of Lambda Chi International. Doc Dirghalli longtime friend and advisor to Omicron, opened the evening with a stirring benediction that beautifully described the spirit and meaning of brotherhood. Susan Murphy, a member of Pi Phi sorority, talked about the continued need for every Greek, man or woman, to strive to make the Greek experience as meaningful and positive as it can be. Brother and Cornell Trustee Steve Ashley '62 presented a commemorative plaque to Ralph Wilhelm '67 for all his years of service to the chapter, the Greek community at Cornell and Lambda Chi International. Bill Farkas concluded the program by relating his personal experience with Lambda Chi's Core Values and how they have positively affected

his life. After the banquet, many of the attendees headed back to Edgemoor to continue socializing.

For those whose travel schedule permitted, Etienne Merle, Lambda Chi's Chef extraordinaire, served a delightful brunch on Sunday morning.

The 100th Celebration was a weekend to remember and the entire brotherhood owes a debt of thanks to all those who worked so hard for so long to make it happen and run so smoothly.

The photos included in this article represent some highlights from the weekend. ♦

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN LAUNCHED WITH \$1.2 MILLION

Doug Levens '92, a member of the Capital Campaign Executive Committee, served as moderator in the packed Statler Ballroom and introduced the Capital Campaign PowerPoint presentation that highlighted the renovation plans for Edgemoor, our 114 year-old Chapter House.

Sandy Gilbert '62, also an Executive Committee member, began the show with a brief rundown on what was needed to make Edgemoor a safer, more energy efficient and more functional home for today's Lambda Chi undergraduates. The safety and energy issues involve a major overhaul of the House's antiquated electrical, plumbing and heating infrastructure. Sandy also pointed out that for some time dormitory sleeping in fraternities has been out of favor at Cornell and Lambda Chi needed to use the renovation to convert to a more suite-based life style.

Lambda Chi's consultant on the renovation project, Greg McElroy, followed Sandy with specific cost projections for the project including the infrastructure redo, the creation of a new Electronic Learning Center that would enable our brothers to access Cornell classes and seminars online and a new Willard Straight Hall style reading room along with some added living rooms on the second and third floors to accommodate the growing demand for more brothers to live in.

Greg then revealed the \$2.40 million projected cost to complete the renovation project that would also include renovation of the kitchen, dining room and bathrooms and the return of the traditional wooden staircase that graced the House many years ago.

Pausing for emphasis, he then got a standing ovation when he revealed that a few alumni had already been approached before the campaign launch and they had pledged an impressive total of \$1.20 million. He went on to explain that when we raise an additional \$300,000 and reach the \$1.50 million level, an anonymous alumni would contribute another \$250,000 to bring us to the funding goal of \$1.75 million. The remaining \$650,000 would be covered by a mortgage paid by the undergraduates as part of their monthly bill.

The audience was also very interested to hear that we have created the Edgemoor Leadership Foundation headed by President Elliot Sloane '74 that will enable our donors to make tax deductible donations to the Capital Campaign.



Architect Phil Prigmore '69 showing renderings of the renovation

Phil Prigmore '69, the lead architect on the project, further engaged the audience by showing drawings of the various redesigned spaces and stills from a 3 D model from a virtual tour of the renovated Chapter House. Phil went through the physical history of the House as it evolved from its original "T" shape to the "L" shape we know today on into the "cube" that will be the formation after the renovation. The audience saw different views of the new Electronic Learning Center, the impressive new Reading Room and the new Exercise Center with its skylights and expanded view of the gorge. Phil ended his explanation of the renovation by inviting the audience to come up to a computer workstation and take the 3 D virtual tour through the new Edgemoor.

Doug Levens closed the formal presentation with a plea to all brothers to make a sacrificial pledge to the campaign so we can build the kind of 21st Century fraternity House that Lambda Chi deserves. He then entertained questions from the floor and invited more people from the audience to come up and take the virtual tour.

With the close of the presentation, the Capital Campaign Brochure was distributed to the audience. If you would like to have a copy of the Brochure, email Sandy Gilbert at sandem133@aol.com. The virtual tour will be available shortly at a special location on the House website.

It was definitely a very exciting day for Lambda Chi and a unique chance for all our alumni to participate in the creation of the new Edgemoor for the next century. ❖

WORTHY ASPIRANTS: ISWZA BECOMES LAMBDA CHI

By Jason Cho '98

We



Jason Cho

were athletes, musicians and plenty else. Currie and Van Kleek ran varsity track and cross-country. Rose played end on both the frosh and varsity football teams and had been nominated All-Southern at his last school. CT sang in the university choir and Mitch, chief musician in the university orchestra, paid his way through school by playing for Patsy Conway, Ithaca's most famous musician. No one had as impressive career, except maybe Shultz, who somehow managed to play both varsity football and play in the band (though presumably not at the same games).

We were loyal to our alma mater, scholarly and rewarded with inductions

into the senior societies and appointments to Spring Weekend Committees. Robbie was president of the Chemistry Honor Society and Dutch and Robinson held the position in the Engineering Honor Societies. Joe, indefatigable Joe, was nominated for the student who had "done the most for Cornell" by his class. And, not withstanding a bit of skepticism about foreign misadventures, we were loyal to America. It was Joe again, who proved it, with his life.

Above all, we were loyal to each other, though this could not be measured in medals or transcripts. In school, we were inseparable. When ultimately separated by intervening life, we strove to not merely retell, but to relive our stories and experiences. We were brothers.

And for the Cornell of 1913, we were simply not fraternity material.

Ezra founded an institution, but it was Andy who took an idea from a farm and made it into a great university. An-

drew Dickson White, the first President of Cornell, was an advocate for fraternities. He had personally joined two of them, one at Hobart and one at Yale, a fact ignored or excused by many today: success has as many brothers as it does fathers. He believed the fraternity was a far superior environment for the student than the barren dormitories of the time or barracks as he called them and the university's support for fraternities was readily apparent early on. Cornell University held its first classes in October 1868. By December, seven Greek letter societies were already clamoring for position.

As the university grew and prospered in the following decades, its student body stratified. Cornell's success naturally attracted many from the wealthy elite. In 1907, President Schurman lamented that "Rich parents send their sons to college as in summer they send them to the seashore or the mountains." But as the nation prospered, Cornell's land grant mission and progressive admissions policies made the dream of college a reality for more students than ever before.

By the early 1900s as Morris Bishop observed, student life was a caste system. At the top were the fraternities, variously ranked, occupying ever-grander if more inflammable palaces and devising even-tighter membership restrictions. The older chapters did not deign to speak to anyone who was not a legacy. Younger chapters maintained prohibitive dues. And outside the fraternal orders, student life was a drudge of mystery meat, tuberculosis and The Cornell Christian Association. Football came only in the fall; films came never. And Willard Straight was not a building, but some recent grad, whom no one had any reason to have heard of.

ISWZA helped fill the void. The members of Mug and Jug supplied their own entertainment. We opened our doors to men from Phillips Exeter and Weedsport High alike. We were graduates of some of the finest public high schools in the country: Masten Park in Buffalo, Brooklyn Boys School, and Worcester Academy. We represented the well-established ranks of New England and New York City, but also those from Auburn, Glen Ridge and Florida and Tennessee. Some of our fathers were fraternity men, but many of us were the first in our families to attend college at all. It didn't

ISWZA BECOMES LAMBDA CHI

matter that CT Keet was the first-ever state scholarship winner from Clinton County or that Eddie La Croix was a Roman Catholic.

What mattered to us was the warm handshake and the warm house ISWZA offered, and we thrived. From its founding in 1908, ISWZA had grown from a boisterous half-dozen to a rambunctious twenty five, with twenty two alumni. We had rented a house at 308 Bryant, and hired a cook to be able to take meals together and moved toward purchasing a house at Stewart Avenue. In the last Cornellian before the charter, ISWZA was still not listed as a fraternity, but as a social society. We had no ritual or secret motto. However, we did have simple and achievable aims: to stimulate good fellowship among our members and encourage them to attain distinction in academics and athletics.

But just five years since Mug and Jug began on Aurora Street, ISWZA wanted more. Seeing how good brotherly relations could be attained at one school, we wanted to share in the fraternal spirit nationally. We aspired to grander ideals and a richer legendarium than four freshman fighting sophomores in an attic or six sophomores and a senior drinking together after a football game. We demanded our rightful place among Cornell's fraternities. The natural path to this end was to amalgamate with a national fraternity. And so, the undergraduates conferred with the alumni and the process of becoming a national fraternity began.

Of course, it was good old Joe, Joseph Alpheus Carr '13, O-3, who made the critical contact. He exchanged letters with Albert Cross, a senior at the University of Pennsylvania, inquiring about his organization. In March 1913, at the Second General Assembly, Lambda Chi Alpha had enacted sweeping changes including the adoption of our current Ritual, our secret mottos, insignia and basic organizational structure. It had done so with the guidance of John Mason, another senior at Penn, and a classicist who carefully researched history and heraldry that imbued a new dignity to the then fledgling national. As much as ISWZA sought a national affiliation to legitimize its place among Cornell fraternities, Lambda Chi Alpha sought a chapter at Cornell to advance its national ambitions and help spread its ideals as expressed in its newly elegant form. ISWZA offered a growing membership, a very active alumni base and a house it owned on a campus with one of the nation's largest fraternity systems. It was a good fit.

On May 31, 1913, the active members of ISWZA formally petitioned the Supreme Council of Lambda Chi Alpha for a charter which was granted. With only a handful of zetas in

existence and only minimal experience with the new Ritual, it took a few months to organize. Finally, on October 11, 1913, the original founder of Lambda Chi Alpha, Warren A. Cole, of Boston University, personally conducted the installation of Omicron Zeta. The ceremony was attended by the participating undergraduates and a number of alumni also seeking induction. An account of the Cornell installation was the main story of the inaugural issue of Lambda Chi's first national magazine penned by a young Lincoln D. Murray, the future founder of Nationwide Insurance. The 1913 brotherhood assembled for the picture shown below.

Ernst Fischer '10, O-34, one of the alumni present at the gath-



ering, soon volunteered to serve for the new national, and over the next decade and a half helped transform Lambda Chi into one of the largest fraternities in North America. At Cornell, Omicron was one of a wave of new fraternities and sororities that swept away the old Victorian order and forced the hidebound old chapters to adapt or perish, especially after the end of the First World War. We knew how to run a modern chapter and we were comfortable rushing a diverse cohort of men. By the mid-1920s, Lambda Chi found itself among Cornell's leading fraternities.

The ensuing decades have been challenging in ways unimaginable to Mitch, Joe and even Fisch, but while we have sometimes stumbled, we have never fallen. In every generation, we have looked to the highest ideals, interpreted through our Ritual, to guide us. And for every generation, our chapter has provided a house and a home where we welcome all who seek and would benefit from true brotherhood - where we can say, every man a man. And knowing what comfort and strength we have derived from that, we will face the next great epoch of change with the sharp eye of a Rigo, the drive of a Fisch and the devotion of good old Joe. ❖

BIG RED BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT EDUCATION

By Stephen Ashley '62

It

all started in 1906 when a young agronomy professor named George Warren arrived with his new bride on the Cornell campus. Part of his duties



Stephen Ashley

included picking up some of Professor Stone's work (some will remember Stone Hall on the Ag Quad – long since demolished), in cooperative experiments with New York farmers wherein he gathered production cost and income data. In 1908 he wrote "Very few farmers keep any record that indicates on what crop or animals they are losing or making money. It is comparatively easy to keep a record of the most important parts of the business." Thus began George Warren's lifelong interest in

the economics and management of agriculture. This was also the beginnings of what is today Cornell's top ranked Undergraduate Business Program – one of only two in the Ivy League with Wharton being the other. For the rankings minded, Cornell is ranked #3 ahead of Wharton.

The evolution to today's Charles H. Dyson School of Applied Economics and Management is a uniquely Cornell success story building incrementally on the strengths of the faculty and the high caliber of students who prove to be successful in their chosen endeavors. Over several decades, George Warren and his colleagues built a highly ranked and recognized Department of Agricultural Economics that included such luminaries as Professor Frank Pearson who was instrumental in advising President Roosevelt to drop the gold standard in the early 1930's. This was a direct result of the work of the Department and Pearson's understanding of commodities, pricing and the combined impact on employment and capital formation. In the 1950's (when I matriculated), if a student wished a

concentration in business and management, the Department of Agricultural Economics offered the best option. The Arts College offered a concentration in Economics but with little opportunities for applied studies, i.e., accounting, human resources and managerial economics. The University started its Graduate School of Business and Public Administration immediately after World War II and permitted a limited number of students to double register their senior year thereby enabling a bachelors and MBA in five years. During the decades of the 60's and 70's, a number of name changes in the former Department of Agricultural Economics took place – AERM (Applied Economics and Resource Management -- shortened at a later time to Applied Economics and Management -- which stands to this day). The Department name changes reflect a transition from a focus purely on agricultural economics to the broader study of business economics and management and a growing emphasis on developmental economics and resource economics. In the 1980's, an Undergraduate Business Program constellation was created within the Applied Economics and Management Department. An Advisory Council was established, courses were added and student interest accelerated. All of this sounds like problem-free success being built on an ever stronger foundation. Not necessarily the case.

The Graduate Business School had grown in its own right in the 1980's and 1990's. It focused on a more mature student seeking those that would have had four-to-five years of experience prior to matriculating. It had wonderful facilities in a renovated Sage Hall and had an independent endowment – thanks to the generosity of Sam Johnson. Every decade, the Graduate School (now the Johnson School) undergoes an external review leading to its accreditation. In the 1990's, this review was undertaken by a distinguished team led by the Dean of the Amos Tuck School at Dartmouth. The strength of the program, faculty and students in the Johnson School was not in question. However, a little known aspect of management school accreditation required that any other unit within the University that offered a concentration in Business and Management likewise needed to be accredited. The capable team of accreditors eyeballed the Undergraduate Business Program and basically said, "WOW -- what is this!." They then turned to better understanding the Un-

dergraduate Business Program within the College of Agriculture and Life Science (CALS). There was much that the accrediting team praised highly, but they also pointed out some concerns – class sizes were too big, there was a need for additional faculty and some additional course work in marketing and behavioral economics.

Pressure was on. The College and its new Dean, Susan Henry, had to develop a plan for addressing the recommendations and gain the Provost's buy-in else the accreditation for the Johnson School was at some risk. Dean Henry moved swiftly. She limited course enrollment – not popular with the students in the other undergraduate colleges – developed a \$20 million Capital Campaign to endow five faculty positions and provide \$5 million for program support, and worked tirelessly with the faculty leadership to position Cornell's Undergraduate Business Program to be fully accredited and then ranked. The money was raised, the faculty hired and the first rankings had Cornell in the top 10. There has been a steady progression since.

Significantly, several years ago, John Dyson and his family's Foundation committed \$25 million to endow the program and have its name become the Charles H. Dyson School of Applied Economics and Management. These additional resources enhance program, support faculty and provide financial aid to students. More recently, the directorship of the school was endowed by alumnus Peter Nolan to honor his father, David Nolan. And, currently Warren Hall, home to the school, has undergone a \$50+ million renovation to provide state-of-the-art teaching and office facilities for faculty and graduate students.

QUESTION: What are some of the underlying factors that lead to the strength of Cornell's Dyson School?

ANSWER: The faculty and students.

The Dyson School today has 49 full-time teaching faculty working with approximately 740 major students. The Class of 2013 graduated 207 students. This past enrollment cycle saw the school receive 1,715 applications of which 136 were admitted – 8%. Of those admitted, 95 enrolled – a 70% yield that is extraordinarily high for any undergraduate program. These students come very well prepared with median SAT's of 1445. Class is diverse – 36% identify as white with the remainder distributed among African American, Asian-American and Latino.

The course distribution requirement includes Statistics, Calculus, Physics or Chemistry, Humanities and Written and Oral Expression. The core course requirements are grouped under the headings of Management and Economics, Quantitative Methods and at least six credits in Applied Economics – which may be chosen from concentrations in Environmental and Resource Economics, Economic Analysis, International Trade and Development, and Food and Agricultural Economics. The top employers are names readily recognizable – GE, Goldman Sachs, Blackrock, Bloomberg, Proctor and Gamble, Ralph Lauren, S.C. Johnson, and so on.

The success is not without its challenges. To name a few:

Student Demand – there is a significant demand from the other 2,800 undergraduate students in each class to take some of the courses – i.e., have a business minor. This runs into problems with course requirements in one's home college, and the University has attempted to address this by creating an Undergraduate Business Minor that would require only four courses.

Other Units that Offer Business or Business-Like Curriculum – The Hotel School has a robust hospitality business and management program. The ILR School offers great strength in human resource management, organizational theory and labor economics. The College of Human Ecology has strengths in public policy analysis and public organizational management. How does this knit together if we are One Cornell? How do the faculties of the various units collaborate and coordinate? What is happening in the Johnson School – especially with its newly announced one-year MBA Program on the New York Tech Campus?

These are some of the questions being worked on by the faculty, deans and Provost. The Board of Trustees has shown a strong interest in learning more and developing business and management education at Cornell that will build on strengths but maintain integrity of colleges and units. Cross college departments are relatively new at Cornell. Within the last year, the Economics Department in the College of Arts and Sciences has joined together with the Labor Economics Department in ILR creating one Department of Economics with a significantly larger department faculty that is now Chaired by Kevin Hallock, a labor economist. Perhaps this is a model in a continuing evolution of business and management education at Cornell.

George Warren would be pleased. ❖

GREEK LIFE: A CHANGING CULTURE AT CORNELL

By Ralph Wilhelm '67

T

he initiatives and increased expectations concerning the Greek System at Cornell continue to evolve. Since the increased pace of change and visibility began in 2008/9, the University, the alumni and in particular, the undergraduates have continued to increase their effort to improve behavior, communication and transparency with the goal of a more solid and robust Greek Community on campus.



Ralph Wilhelm

Let me focus on just the changes that have been implemented over the last twelve months:

(1) The New Member Education period is now set at four weeks from

start to the completion of initiation. This covers both fall rush and spring rush. As you all may remember, this NME period is used to educate our new Associate Members about the Fraternity, national core values, local traditions and names and other details for all initiated brothers. The emphasis is placed on the values and character that make us proud to be Cornell Lambda Chi's. Five to twenty years ago, the NME period was as long as eight to ten weeks. The period was shortened by the University because history showed that students grades declined during this prolonged indoctrination period.

Our LXA National was very helpful, as all Nationals were to "sculpt" and modify the NME training process to fit the new much shorter timeframe required on campus. Fortunately, the new system seems to be working in the vast majority of houses.

(2) Fall Rush is now gaining quite a foothold and be-

coming more common on campus. A number of us alumni from the sixties will remember when all chapters put on a fall rush. That died away over the years until the last ten years or so when many houses (including Omicron) began to support Fall Rush again. There are several key advantages for conducting a fall rush including a growing number of transfers from outside Cornell who have a strong focus on the University and are new to the campus and a successful fall rush helps reduce the pressure to deliver a big class from the traditionally larger spring rush. It has also proven to be a great way to bring in more men with strong leadership qualities. With today's larger pool of transfer students, over half of the IFC chapters on campus have indicated that they will conduct a fall rush program this semester.

(3) Pressure on all Cornell chapters continues in terms of higher expectations for improved behavior and a focus on making healthy choices in their daily lives. This increased pressure shows up in a number of areas:

(a) Quicker and more transparent judicial hearings and decisions.

(b) Decreased lack of tolerance for aberrant behavior resulting in swift adjudication and chapter removal from campus.

(c) A handful of IFC chapters were given various levels of probation this past spring. Additionally, two chapters had their charters revoked and have disappeared from the Hill. As a testimony to the increased visibility and action of local alumni and national organizations, both of these chapters were told to leave by their own local alumni boards and/or national organizations even before the University came to that conclusion. Times are certainly changing.

(4) The use of the word "pledge" is no longer sustainable on campus. Yes, some chapters still use it, but with the pressure from alumni and from the administration, the use of alternative classifications such as LXA's "associate member" category is becoming more popular. This will not change overnight, but it is moving in that direction and Omicron is certainly ahead of the curve as we made that appropriate move way back in 1972.

(5) The University and the Fraternity and Sorority

Advisory Council (FSAC) have now nailed down the date for the SECOND Annual Greek Alumni Summit at the Statler. This upcoming event will be held on February 21 to 23, 2014 and will bring together as many alumni as we can attract to attend. The event brackets the more traditional A.D. White Greek Leadership Conference that has been held on a February Saturday for six hours, going back quite a number of years. This Greek Alumni-Undergraduate event allows for discussions of best practices, upcoming changes on campus, and robust debate on planned or contemplated changes that may occur. The overall intent is to increase communication and transparency, encourage alumni to understand more clearly the issues on campus today and look for the places where they can help. You are ALL INVITED TO ATTEND! Please send me an email at the address shown at the close of the article if you want more information.

(6) Just coming to light this month is a new web site for the University: the site to highlight Group Misbehavior. (Sorry I don't know the official name of the site yet.) This new web site is a parallel to the "hazing.Cornell.edu" that was created about five or more years ago. This older site is intended to help students post anonymously, talk through and learn what is and what is not hazing, and support one another in resisting and shutting down hazing on campus. This is a real culture change and it will take years, but we are certainly making meaningful progress.

This new site aimed at Group Misbehavior looks at hazing and group misconduct across the entire campus, not just among the Greeks. This move to gain support for this took quite a bit of focus and effort, but those of us working closely with the University

believe it will yield substantial results. Yes, there will be some more growing pains as this Group Misconduct gets more widely used and yes, various other groups and teams will begin to feel the light of day on their activities. However, this type of transparency is necessary if we are to make the kind of real culture change that is required in today's university life.

(7) This last point is to mention some items on the horizon that are just beginning to take shape:

The "Live In Advisor" concept is still being debated among staff, students, and administrators. However, we have our fall FSAC meeting at the end of September and a review with the Trustee Student Life Committee on campus in October and important topics like this will be discussed in depth and, hopefully, we will come away with a clear path forward.

The "One Greek Community" is a concept that came out of the RARE report that we spoke about in previous Oracles. This will be piloted in the late fall and its focus is on teaching and educating freshman who are considering rush, all about Greek life. Like we are doing with the Greek Alumni Summit, the focus here is in-depth communication, full transparency, and a good dose of education for freshman about what to expect in Greek Life in general, what questions to ask, and what expectations to have, etc. This will take more work after the pilot, but we have high hopes for this program.

As always, for more information or comment, you can reach me at 317-508-6866 or rvw5@cornell.edu. I look forward to your comments and feedback! ❖





OMICRON CONTINUES TO GROW

By Matthew Clardy '14
High Alpha

I

am looking forward to my senior year on campus and graduation this spring with a bachelor's degree in chemical engineering and a minor in English which I hope to put to good use in the energy /oil industry. I had a good start in this direction last summer when I was able to gain some valuable real world experience working for the Infineum Company's oil refinery near Newark, New Jersey. I worked primarily on small scale capital equipment improvement and safety systems.



Matthew Clardy

which makes us one of the largest houses on The Hill. The new slate of officers shown at right in the Fact Box is actively working on our plans for the year. Of course, everyone is especially excited about the 100th Celebration Weekend and the chance to see so many returning alumni from across the decades.

OMICRON FACT BOX: FALL 2013

High Alpha.....	Matthew Clardy '14
High Beta.....	Jesse Fox '15
High Theta.....	Ari Ruben '15
High Gamma.....	Reece Anderson '16
High Epsilons	Anthony Mazzulli '15 & Mike Dohmann '16
High Kappas.....	Arlen Pappazian '14 & Brian Barnes '14
High Tau	Nick Polera '15
High Rho.....	Dan Deflumeri'15
High Delta.....	Peter Caldwell '15
High Phi.....	Ravi Garcia '15
High Iota.....	Luke Goodman '16
High Mu.....	Eric Baum '15
High Sigma.....	Richie Ibsen '16
Steward	Mike Hassman '15
Jock.....	Ryan Pritchard '16

I am especially pleased to report that the Brotherhood really worked hard on our fall Rush Program and added the following three great new Associate Members: Joe Fateh 15, CALS, from Scarsdale, New York, Bryan Finneran 15, CALS, from Powell, Ohio and Patrick Russell '16, Arts and Sciences, from Woking, England. This is an important program for the house as Cornell is attracting more outstanding transfer students every year who missed the previous year's spring rush. Under the direction of our Philanthropy Chair, Ari Rubin '15, the House is working on a number of community service events for this semester including participating in the sorority sponsored 5K "Paint Run" at the Cornell

OMICRON CONTINUES TO GROW



Plantations pictured below. Future plans include a Philanthropy Week with a watermelon bash or a stable bike marathon on Hoy Plaza.

The house social schedule for the fall includes mixers with a number of Cornell's leading sororities including Tri Delt, Kappa Delta, Pi Phi, Alpha Chi Omega Alpha Phi and Phi Sigma Sigma. These events are always fun and help sustain Omicron's high profile on campus.

You'll read about the success of our intramural sports program later in the issue in the new Sports Page feature including our prospects of repeating last year's championship in flag football.

We will also be working closely with Justin Friend, our ELC, on reaching our Chapter Goals and continuing to



improve our GPA of 3.332.

I look forward to meeting with our many generous alumni supporters at the 100th Celebration and throughout the rest of the school year. By all means, stop by the house for a visit if you are ever in the Ithaca area. ❖

HORT SENSE: WINTERIZING YOUR LANDSCAPE

By R. Wayne Mezitt '64

T

hese shorter days with their frosty mornings and biting evening breezes are timely reminders that winter is imminent, soon to dominate the landscape. When the “growing season” ends, we all tend to neglect our gardens as the weather cools. It’s normal, until the ground is already frozen, for us to forget that winter conditions can cause problems for some plants. So taking some simple actions this autumn in your yard can be beneficial avoiding disappointments and optimizing your enjoyment of your garden next year.



Wayne Mezitt

Preparing your in-ground landscapes for winter requires minimum effort:

all that is generally needed is a combination of cleanup, mulching, pruning, and soil moisture/fertility awareness. To avoid winter damage on lawns, it is wise to rake-away heavier mats of leaves before snowfall. But around shrubs and trees, taking time to remove fallen leaves need not be a top priority until after winter; that’s because leaves trap air, snow and provide beneficial insulation around root systems.

Any foliage or branches that show symptoms of disease should be removed now to help avoid re-infection next year. Broken or damaged branches that become evident when foliage drops can also be readily pruned now. But it’s generally best to postpone shearing evergreens, as well as broadleaf and deciduous shrubs until next year after they flower and when growth again occurs. Deer and rodent damage can be a threat in your gardens, and there are many ways to reduce the risk. It’s always helpful to consult with experts at your local garden center for advice on pruning and protecting specific types of plants.

By the time the ground freezes, the soil around your trees and shrubs should still be reasonably moist, but not waterlogged. Pay most attention to those plantings installed this year whose root systems are still becoming

established. It’s always wise to maintain a two-inch layer of mulch (bark, leaves, pine needles, etc.) near the trunk of trees and around the base of shrubs to assure even soil moisture and reduce weed-seed germination. Fall is a good time to check and make sure the “root-flare” of the plant is visibly exposed and able to receive sufficient aeration; you may need to pull-back previous years’ mulch to expose the root flare. The “volcano” mulching effect we all-too-often see -- where mulch is piled in a mound-shaped cone around the trunk of the tree -- can cause permanent stunting and may eventually kill the tree.

After a freeze, until the ground becomes frozen, is a good time to use fertilizers. To avoid misapplying fertilizers, it is wise to look for indications the plants need fertilizing and follow label directions. Soil testing can be helpful and should be available for a nominal fee through your state Extension Service; in Massachusetts, we log on to <http://soiltest.umass.edu/> for details. Most garden centers sell do-it-yourself soil testing kits, and experts there can help link you with a professional service if needed. Organic fertilizer formulations are always preferable.

Container-grown plants need more specialized treatment than in-ground landscapes. Exposed to typical winter air temperatures, the roots of most plants left outdoors in pots for the winter in USDA Zones 6 and colder can be damaged, causing your plants to suffer and perhaps even perish. Each type of plant varies in its root damage cold susceptibility, and only the toughest can survive a New England winter outdoors without any protection. Many types of trees and shrubs including Holly (Ilex), Magnolia and Dogwood (Cornus) are always damaged when their root temperatures fall to 20° F. But some Rhododendron, Spruce (Picea) and Juniper roots can survive when air temperatures fall to 0° F., or colder, if they don’t dry out.

To assure the health of your potted plants, it’s always prudent to provide appropriate protection from ambient air temperatures. For most types of landscape plants in New England, it’s generally adequate to move potted plants to a location that maintains temperatures above 25° F. High light-levels are not necessary for dormant plants, so a minimally-heated garage or cold-room used for vegetable storage may be appropriate.

Commercial growers of containerized plants pack their pots tightly together and then cover them with insu-

lating layers of polyethylene, foam or other materials to trap air and reduce temperature fluctuations. The most cold-sensitive species receive supplemental heat. Timing for winter protection is also critical – covering plants too soon in the fall prevents them from properly acclimating to winter temperatures, and uncovering them too early exposes them to potential freezing damage when winter draws to a close. A lot of these principles apply to homeowners too.

Tender foliage plants and Tropicals should not be allowed to freeze and may require greenhouse conditions to over-winter effectively. Most of us simply let seasonal and annual “color” plants (like Petunia, Coleus, Marigold, Nasturtium, and Zinnia) die with the cold and replace them next year. But some of the more desirable types like Citrus, Ficus, Mandevilla and Ornamental Peppers can be moved indoors at your home

for the winter, if humidity and light levels are sufficient. If you do this, make sure you monitor moisture and control insects (like aphids, scale and whitefly) that may cause problems.

Next time you visit a public garden, ask their staff horticulturist how they prepare their plantings for winter. And the experts at your local garden center are always available for recommendations for your specific winterizing needs. Helpful resources are also readily available on the internet, at the library and when you join specialty-plant groups.

Taking a few timely precautionary actions now will help assure that your family experiences the satisfaction a healthy landscape provides. It’s only about a dozen weeks until warmer weather returns and you’ll again be outdoors enjoying the pleasures of your garden. ♦

R. Wayne Mezitt is a 3rd generation nurseryman and a Massachusetts Certified Horticulturist, now chairman of Weston Nurseries of Hopkinton and Chelmsford, MA. He has served as president of the Massachusetts Nursery and Landscape Association, the New England Nursery Association, and the American Nursery and Landscape Association, based in Washington, DC. Recently he’s formed “Hort-Sense”, an advisory business that utilizes his knowledge and experience for client benefit.

THE RECIPE BOX: Sandy’s Double Duty Dip



By Sandy Gilbert '62

Derived from the famous tangy sauce at Joe’s Stone Crab Restaurant in Miami, this simple, quick concoction makes a great dressing for cold crab salad or a lobster roll. Move on to phase two and add the curry, chutney and apricot jam and you have a great party dip for raw vegetables or shrimp.

INGREDIENTS

(Serves Eight or More)

- Cup of your favorite mayonnaise
- Several tablespoons of your favorite yellow mustard
- Dash of Worcestershire Sauce
- Dash of Horseradish
- Dash of Old Bay Seasoning
- Pinch of chopped fresh or dried dill

Preparation:

Mix all the ingredients together in a bowl beginning with the mayonnaise and followed by the mustard and Worcestershire Sauce. When finished you should have a smooth, slightly mustard flavored sauce for cold seafood.

To move on to phase two to create a tangy dip for a raw vegetable or shrimp appetizer, just add a teaspoon or two of your favorite curry powder, a dash of chutney and a tablespoon of apricot jam

to taste. Finish the dip with a sprinkle of freshly grated nutmeg and you’ll have a proven crowd pleaser in no time.

Enjoy.

TRAVEL NUGGETS: SHATTERING STEREOTYPES

By Alan Fridkin '65

W

ithout a drop of Irish blood, Ireland was not high on my “to do” list. I’m not particularly fond of pubs or Irish music and have no desire to see Riverdance. Placing great stock in excellent dining, sunny

skies and atmospheric seaports, for decades we have been heading to the Mediterranean, with an occasional jaunt to more distant lands. What could possibly be of interest in the land of Guinness and spuds? The answer is: plenty.

Scenery

Mile for mile, Ireland has some of the most beautiful landscapes on the planet. In May, we drove over 1300 miles, touching about 80% of the 26

counties (there are 6 more in Northern Ireland which we are told has some of the prettiest venues). West Cork, the Ring of Kerry, the Dingle Peninsula, Connemara and the Burren are iconic. If you like old cities, big ones, like Dublin, Cork and Waterford and small ones such as Kilkenny, Wexford and Westport are appealing. Most charming are the smaller towns, such as Youghal, Kinsale, Kenmare, Dingle and Clifden. Off the “M” Motorways, many roads are incredibly narrow, and often winding, not always wide enough for two cars. At one side of the road may be an eight foot hedge or a rock wall; on the other, a drop into a farmer’s field. But most drivers are extremely courteous and careful and the roads are kept up to a higher standard than ours.

The People

We find good people everywhere we travel. Still, we have rarely encountered so many genuinely courteous, charming and interesting folks. In some of the pubs, the publican is right out of central casting. For a country with such a rich literary and dramatic tradition, the blarney and genuine hospitality come easily. When my wife revealed some of her Irish roots, we had a dozen amateur genealogists at our service.

Sport

Of course, if you are a golfer, you already know about Ireland’s legendary courses. Horse racing is serious business. Most intriguing, the Gaelic sports which are barely known here. Irish Football, Road Bowling, and especially Hurling! Rugby, soccer and cycling are also popular.

Food

There are now numerous superb restaurants, a great emphasis on locally sourced fish, meat and produce and craft beers and ales, as well as considerable access to fine wines from the continent, and elsewhere. You will not find better salmon (fresh and smoked), brown breads and scones. The lamb and beef are also of superb quality.

History

As well as having a rich history that predates Viking invaders, there is an enormous intertwining of Ireland with the U.S. It has been said that ¼ of the people in Massachusetts have Irish roots, and throughout our country the Irish have been here since before our Revolution. The National Library in Dublin has a room and specialists to help those tracing their roots. The Irish/English relationship, for good and bad, permeates the land to this date. There is a lot to absorb, from the 1300 year-old city of Waterford to the beautiful illuminated Book of Kells in Trinity College Library.

Lodging and Travel

While you can find chain hotels, small family owned ones, and especially B&Bs, which run the gamut from basic to ultra-luxury, will add to your enjoyment. You can do a pre-packaged tour, or plan your own trip with help from DiscoverIreland.ie and Local Tourist Bureaus. Bus Eirann and Irish Rail have useful networks, but renting a car offers the most flexibility. Watch lower and upper age limit restrictions. Most U.S. Carriers have at least one route to Dublin and/or Shannon, and Air Lingus flies to Ireland from 5 U.S. cities.

In Conclusion

This is not Disneyland. Ireland has its problems, which you can read about daily in the *Irish Times*, *Irish Examiner* or *Irish Independent* or view on RTE Television. But travelers are warmly welcomed. There is a lot of rain and wind, but the sun comes out for a time almost every day, and in every smile and conversation. Also, some of that Irish music really is quite good! ♦



Alan Fridkin



The Dingle Coastline, above. Downtown Kilkenny, right.



NEWS FROM THE CROSS & CRESCENT

For those of you who may not have seen it, Omicron has been very visible in recent issues of the Cross and Crescent, Lambda Chi's online news source, as shown in the adjacent picture of our participants at Cornell's A.D. White Conference. Pictured left to right, back row: Jamie Winebrake '15, Alex Schoifet '15, Gabe Mahan '13, Clayton Dubin '14, Matt Clardy '14, Chris Fateh '13, and Grey Pekar '15. Front Row: Alumni Ralph Wilhelm '67, Omicron Consultant, Greg McElroy, Jason Cho '98, and Charlie Frick (De Pauw)

Another recent Omicron entry in the Cross and Crescent featured our participants in the Lambda Chi Alpha Stead Leadership Seminar last summer in Memphis, Tennessee. The attendees were Ari Rubin '15, Mike Filiatrault '95, President of the ISWZA Alumni Association, and Anthony Mazzulli '15. Ari Rubin wrote that he thought the experience was very worthwhile in developing leadership skills and that he really enjoyed interacting with the other 700 attending Lambda Chi Brothers from all across the US and Canada. The Cornell contingent especially enjoyed catching up with Brian Watts, Omicron's ELC from last year and meeting Justin Friend, their new ELC.

Be sure to read the September edition of the Cross and

Crescent and read a great piece commemorating Omicron's 100th Anniversary by Jon Williamson (Maryland) highlighting our history and comments from some of our brothers over the years.



You'll find the Cross and Crescent online at www.lambdachialpha.org and you should check it out regularly to see what's going on at Omicron under Chapter News and read about Lambda Chi's ongoing programs and events around the country.

THE WINE RACK: A French Connection

By Sandy Gilbert '62

Some readers of this column have commented that I seem to have an aversion to French wines in my recommendations. Actually, this is true. Like many wine consumers in recent years, I have sought good quality, less expensive wines from California, Italy and Australia to replace the increasingly more expensive French varietals like Pomerol and Pommard. However, for those of you who would like to try some well recommended, but affordable French wines, here are a few worthy entries for under \$20.00:

RED WINES

(Burgundy)

2009 Chateau de Nervers Brouilly (\$17.99)

One of the most prestigious appellations in Beaujolais, reviewers call this wine "light, soft and aromatic." A truly classic Beaujolais, this wine is given a 90 rating by Wine Advocate.

2009 Le Renard Bourgogne Rouge (\$19.99)

This wine is 100% Pinot Noir which reviewers claim "showcases a rich, supple palate supported by soft tannins." Beverage Dynamics gives this wine a 90 rating.

(Bordeaux)

2009 Chateau Clos de Vieille Eglise Castillon (\$14.99)

Reviewers like this Bordeaux from St. Emilion for its less tannic and more fruit-driven character than Bordeaux wines from the Left Bank. It is considered a refined red with a great deal of finesse that will go well with game or prime rib. Wine Spectator gives the wine a 92 rating.

2010 Chateau Brisson Castillon (\$19.99)

Another outstanding choice from St. Emilion, this wine is described as having "a good floral nose with hints of cocoa powder and vanilla." James Suckling rates this wine at 92.

WHITE WINES

(Bordeaux)

2011 Chateau Haut Guillebot Blanc (\$11.99)

Reviewers like this wine for its fresh, citrus and apple



taste and Wine Enthusiast gives it an 89 rating.

2009 Clos Le Vigneau Vouvray (\$16.99)

Vouvray is made from 100% Chenin Blanc grapes grown in the hills around the Loire Valley. It makes an excellent companion with richly sauced seafood like oyster stew and this particular wine is given a 90 rating by Wine Advocate.

2011 PH Morel CDR Villages Laudun Blanc (\$14.99)

Reviewers praise this wine for its "fresh, lush, melon and white peach notes." Wine Spectator gives the wine a 89 rating.

It should be noted that the prices quoted in this column are from the Total Wine Buying Guide and they could be higher at your local liquor store.

OBITUARIES

The Omicron Oracle notes with sadness the passing of the following brothers:

Clement F. Harris '38

July 19, 2013

Kirk E. Birrell '50

June 25, 2013

Frank T. Decker '51

March 18, 2013

Jose S. Abizaid '56

April 17, 2013

Raymond N. Merena '59

May 21, 2013

Joseph A. Persivale Jr. '60

May 16, 2013



OMICRON EXCELS ON THE DIAMOND

By Lee Leonard '63

Coming off its university flag football championship last fall, Lambda Chi also distinguished itself on the softball diamond last spring reaching the semifinals before a heartbreaking extra inning loss to Sigma Phi Epsilon.

Hopes were high for the Omicron nine even before the season started with a roster full of returning veterans, most of them ex-high school varsity baseball players. Manager Adam Stein had his charges off and running from the start with strategy meetings and holding pre-season practice sessions.

The left side of the infield was anchored by third baseman Christo Meier and shotstop Andrew Tang, while rover Frank Rizarro patrolled the outfield and was menacing at the plate.

The brothers were confident of going all the way in 2013, and they had a score to settle with DU, who knocked them out of the playoffs a year earlier.

In the season-opener, Lambda Chi pummeled an error-prone Deke team, 16 to 4, and then followed that up with a 16-2 win over Sig Ep, perhaps angering them for the playoff encounter at the end of the season.

In the playoffs, we quickly dispatched Phi Gamma Delta, 14 to nothing, with Brian (Spud) Silver throwing his first shutout.

Then came the quarterfinal game against hated DU, with their veteran team of big hitters. The lead exchanged several times before the Purple, Green and Gold put together a string of hits and scored 10 runs in the fifth inning. Final score: 17 to 5.

Sig Ep was ready for the rematch in the semi-finals. They had been having practice at the scene of the crime before our brothers even showed up for the game. The Siggie Poos changed their alignment in the field from the regular-season game, stationing four outfielders deep and putting the second baseman in short right field to thwart our vaunted LXA sluggers. Sig Ep's shortfielder snuffed one rally, and our hitters weren't quite on their game, leaving runners on when we shouldn't have. Meanwhile, Sig Ep capitalized on a series of bloopers over the infield and scoring some runs.

The game was close all the way and we were trailing by only two runs going into the bottom of the last inning. In a clutch move, right fielder Greg Becker hit a two-run blast to send the game into extra innings. The next inning they scored one run

off a hit that could have been called foul, but wasn't and we were unable to answer. Final score Sig Ep 10, LXA 9.

All in all, it was a very good season for the Purple, Green and Gold. We went 4 and 1, avenged the previous year's loss to DU and scored a whopping 72 runs while only giving up 21. If you're keeping score, that's an average of more than 14 runs a game while allowing only 4. Pretty good stuff.

FALL SPORTS PREVIEW

The outlook for Omicron's fall sports program is very encouraging. As of this writing, both the flag football and soccer teams are undefeated going into the playoffs. The brothers are gearing up for a strong push to the championship in both sports. Stay tuned.

NEWS FROM ALUMNI

► 1948

Jacob Fry writes to say that he has been retired since 1988 from the Harnischfeger Corporation, but enjoyed consulting work with a number of worldwide corporations until he turned 80 in 2004. At 89 he still enjoys life and stays busy keeping an eye on his investments. He would love to hear from his good friends John Beardsley '44 and George Getman '44. Jacob's mailing address is W18S8636 Cottage Circle West, Muskego, WI 53150.

Bob McKinless had a great time at Reunion in June. He met up with Dick Turner '46 with his "new friend" Ann '45 and Fred and Bobbie Hickling '48. They had all their meals together and had fun catching up.

Bob and the group made it to the Chapter House for the Lambda Chi reception on Saturday afternoon. Bill Smith '10 had everything in good order and Jason Cho '98 got a list of all the alumni signing the guest book. There were about 25 Lambda Chi's on hand for the reception including quite a few '08s and '78s. Bob had breakfast with Bob Shaw '78 on Friday morning. You can reach Bob at bikerbob8@mac.com.

Ray Schumacher writes from Milford, Ohio that he's willing to bet his O-602 zeta number makes him one of Omicron's oldest living alumni. He says life is still good at 87. He also sends his best to the current graduating class and wishes the job market was as good for them as it was back in 1948. You can talk with Ray at (573) 831-3838.

NEWS FROM ALUMNI

► 1954

Thomas Bechert tells us he retired from the faculty at the Naval Academy at Annapolis back in 2006. He looks forward to returning to Ithaca for the LXA 100th Celebration in October with his wife, Marge. You can reach Tom at mt-bechert@comcast.net.

► 1955

Craig Atwater is having fun with the choral group at his adult community in Monroe Township, New Jersey working on an upcoming movie themed concert that will be staged later this month. Many of the songs are from movies he recalled seeing in the Ithaca theaters the near-near, the near-far, the far-far and the "Armpit." "Flicks" were a common Friday night diversion in his days on The Hill followed by some draft beers at either Zinck's or Jim's (now called The Chapter House). Craig can be found at cwa-groovey@thepondsnj.com.

► 1957

Henry Kammerer is excited to report that he and his wife, Grace, have a granddaughter who will be coming to Cornell as a freshman this fall. They look forward to seeing her and many of his friends from Lambda Chi at the 100th Celebration Weekend in October. Though retired for 14 years, Henry still does some consulting with his former firm Moog-ISP. You'll locate Henry at HGKmrer@aol.com.

► 1962

Jeff Burnam writes to say he is still teaching American Government at Georgetown and enjoys the interaction with the students in discussing today's government and Washington politics. He had a great experience co-leading a tutorial at Oxford University on "Governing America Under Polarizing Conditions." He and Diana spent a great week in the Berkshires before he had surgery to replace his left knee. Jeff hopes to be on hand for the 100th Celebration. His email is jeffryburnam@cox.net.

► 1963

Bob Elliott tells us that he and Connie were fully cleaned up from Super Storm Sandy at their place on the Jersey Shore on Long Beach Island by July 4th. A sizable dune protected their home from major flooding but, unfortunately, their beach is as small as it's been in 22 years. With the dune on the Ocean side, most of the flooding in the town came from the Bay which flooded the main road down the 18-mile barrier island under 3 to 5 feet of water.

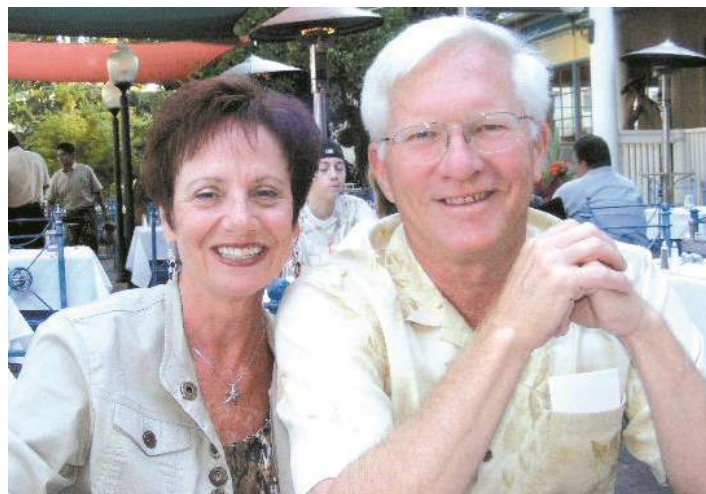
Bob says that eleven members of the Elliott clan came to Long Beach Island for a weekend in August and brother, John '66, won the annual tennis tournament. Contact Bob at bobell89@aol.com.

John Lutz and Tom Miller returned to the Hill for their 50th Reunion last June and had a great time exploring the many new buildings on campus and attending the various Reunion events. They also were able to stop by the Chapter House for the Omicron Reception. Pictured below from left to right that's John and Tracy Lutz and Dorie and Tom Miller. John can be found at rlcorp@verizon.net and Tom is located at tdurhammiller@yahoo.com.



► 1964

Jack Hastings is pleased to report from Venice, Florida that he and his partner, Cathy Allison, will be getting married soon. That's Jack and Cathy pictured below during a recent vacation in Maine. You'll find Jack at allbirdies@comcast.net.



► 1965

We heard from Springer Cox that he and Alice have finally moved to a retirement community in Cary, North Carolina near Raleigh. It's a Del Webb community with about a thousand homes. Although it took nearly a year to sell their other house, they are very pleased with their new quarters.

NEWS FROM ALUMNI

They moved in February, but as often is the case, it was June before they were fully moved in and could get both cars into the garage. Springer says he still enjoys thinking about some of the hilarious incidents from his days on Edgemoor Lane. You can catch up with Springer at springer-cox@nc.rr.com.

John DeWitt tells us he saw the spring edition of The Oracle online and thinks it was a home run. He likes the digital format because it allows for extended articles and more visuals that weren't possible before in the printed version. John and Pat now live in Lakewood Ranch near Sarasota, Florida where he enjoys playing his bass in some local jazz and blues gigs and catching up with Sandy Gilbert '62 and Jack Hastings '63 who live nearby. Contact John at johnde-witt64@gmail.com.

Pat Huston weighs in from out west in Portland, Oregon where he reports the summer weather was a lot more comfortable than the intense heat back east. He claims he has "gone to the dogs" in his retirement as he spends a great deal of time with his two dogs competing in obedience and scent work trials. Pat says he enjoyed seeing Bill and Joyce Imig when they came through Portland back in August. You can reach Pat at Huston.p@gmail.com.

Another brother living out west in Richland, Washington, Jim Loomis is an avid fly fisherman and reports that he is looking forward to a fishing trip to Kamchatka in eastern Russia. It's one of the most remote places in the northern hemisphere outside of the high arctic and the fishing is world class. Jim still does some consulting with local firms and travels fairly frequently to Seattle to visit his kids. When not fishing the local streams, you'll find Jim at jeloomispe@aol.com.

► 1969

Warren Lem finally finished all the repair work last May from hurricane Sandy on his properties in Kismet, Fire Island. It entailed lots of tough physical work cutting trees, digging out sand piles, fence restoration, roofing and painting. He's been back in Naples, Florida ever since where he and Lenora are teaching tennis pro bono at two summer camps for underprivileged kids. They have 125 kids in the program. One of the camps is in Immokalee, Florida, a very distressed Latino farming community. The kids have basically nothing so Warren has rummaged around and found enough tennis equipment to help teach the

kids as shown below. It's a very physically challenging endeavor as Florida is very hot in the summer and their clinics are run outdoors at about five hours a clip. Warren plans to be at the 100th Celebration Weekend in October. You can reach him at warrenlem@aol.com.



► 1974

Elliot Sloan reports that he and the family have completed their move from the Philadelphia area to Osprey, Florida on the west coast near Sarasota. Elliot is very busy traveling with his consulting business and serving as President of our Edgemoor Leadership Foundation (ELF). He looks forward to catching up with the other Omicrons who live in the Sarasota area. You'll catch Elliot at esloan@gmail.com.

► 1978

Bob Shaw had a great time attending Mark Todd's wedding back in June. A strong Lambda Chi '78 contingent was on hand as shown below from left to right: John Sovocool, Harry Kaiser, Brian Kelly, Lilly and chef extraordinaire, Ray Melton, George Lutz and Bob Shaw. John "Cool" Savocool wants to set up a '78 pledge class reunion at his place later this year. You'll find Bob at shawrw@gmail.com.



NEWS FROM ALUMNI

► 1981

We have learned that Gregory G. Deierlein, the John A. Blume Professor in the school of engineering at Stamford, has been elected to the National Academy of Engineering for “development of advanced structural analysis and design techniques and their implementation in design codes.” Gregory teaches in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering

► 1982

Mark Fernau shown below also had the pleasure of catching up with chef Ray Melton. Mark enjoyed talking with Ray again who was such a big part of the Lambda Chi experience back in the day. You'll find Mark at mef29@cornell.edu.



► 1987

Lenny Bardfield is excited to report that his oldest son, Jack, will be a freshman in the Engineering School at Cornell this fall. Lenny and his wife, Penny, are looking forward to spending some time on the campus and stopping by Edgemoor Lane to relive some great old times. Lenny lives at lbardfe@its.jnj.com.

► 1990

Thomas Bruno has now been in the Washington, DC area for 22 years. He lives in Falls Church, Virginia with wife Angela and two children: Ally (10) and Andrew (8). For the past 2 1/2 years, he has worked at Agilex Technologies, where he serves as Vice President of Operations for the Civilian Government portion of their business. He ended up at Agilex because of Dominic Delmolino ('90), who was

one of the company's founders. In addition to Dom, Tom often sees Jamey Dumas ('91) and Sam Sankar ('92). Those occasions usually involve large amounts of whiskey!

► 1991

Steve DelRosso writes from Starnberg, Germany near Munich that he is on a three to five year stint there. The family has settled in well after nine months and brother Stan Leong '90 was their first visitor. Steve wonders who's next? Oktoberfest fills up fast, but there are also plenty of other beer fests during the year. You'll catch Steve at sdelrosso@gmail.com.

Kevin Lemanowicz is in his 17th year as chief meteorologist at Fox 25 in Boston. Recently, he “crossed off a couple bucket list items” in just a few weeks. First, the family cruised to Alaska – they only saw a small part of the huge state, but it was breathtaking. The highlight was flying to and landing on Mendenhall Glacier to do some mushing. And Kevin took his oldest son (16 now) to Fenway to see Paul McCartney in concert! Kevin also met up with Ernie Joynt '91 for beers when he was home visiting.

After graduating Cornell, Samir Shah decided to pursue medicine. He is in a group practice in Cherry Hill, NJ, working as an otolaryngologist. Samir and wife Rupal have been married for 14 years and have 2 beautiful daughters: Priya (10) and Anjali (5). He has become an avid cyclist and continues to play in basketball and tennis leagues through the year.

► 1992

Paul(ie) “Masher” Marashlian is alive in LA juggling a day gig in the film bizness with ongoing creative endeavors such as figuring out how to compute one's real-world g.p.a. for alumni mag purposes. He hopes all's well with everyone, and apologizes for not keeping in better touch among fellow brothers while “hermiting/writing new project(s).” He continues, “Really wish I could make it back to Ithaca this October but already scored awesome seats for Atoms for Peace shows and peaceful atoms need our love too.” Paul is currently prepping to shoot an indie project in the late fall as well, so he'll send all his best in absentia, adding that he's sure we'll “ketchup again for future festivities.” He concludes: “PS my hazy alter ego is still locked up in the Lounge, please set me free!”

After his time at Cornell, Daniel “Squeaky” Velicer went to Rice University for grad school to study piano chamber music and accompanying. He worked at the University of the Pacific for three years before getting married and moving to the Kansas City area in 1998. Dan resides in Overland Park, Kansas, a suburb of Kansas City, and since 1998

NEWS FROM ALUMNI

has been working as a freelance pianist, working primarily with the Kansas City Symphony and helping music students at UMKC with their degree recitals. His wife Kristi and two kids, Nicholas and Hanna (12 & 9), are amazing. He plays pick-up ultimate frisbee when possible and enjoys taking his kids canoe camping and growing tomatoes for homemade pizza sauce.

► 1994

Things are good for Samir Ghadiali. He moved to Columbus, OH in 2008 to take an Associate Professor position in Biomedical Engineering at the OSU Medical Center. Luckily for him, his wife, Stephanie Kute, got a great job across the street at Battelle Memorial Institute doing medical device development. They have two daughters: Sarina (9) and Sierra (4) who are really getting into all sorts of sports (mainly soccer and volleyball). Samir has been cycling a lot lately, doing at least one century a summer. He's also slowly getting back into homebrewing, "but I am much better at drinking than brewing"

Sanford (Sandy) Gordon spends all his time pestering fellow '90s vintage Lambda Chis for alumni updates. Well, maybe not all. After graduating from Cornell, he got his doctorate in Politics at some rival school in the untamed swamps of Central Jersey. Then, it was off to Ohio for a three-year assistant professor gig at Ohio State. While the Midwest wasn't really for him, he still roots for the Buckeyes (the team, not the peanut butter/chocolate abomination). For the last 11 years, Sandy has been teaching at NYU, where he was recently promoted to full professor. In 2004, he married Alice Davenport '91. They live in Manhattan with beautiful daughter Julia, who will turn five in October. He hopes to see many of you at the Centennial, but if not, let him know if you're in the City (sanford.gordon@gmail.com).

Gregory Rich last saw anyone from Lambda Chi in 1995, when he was living in Norfolk. Since then, life has taken him through Philadelphia, Cincinnati, and Ann Arbor, and he's currently living outside of Kansas City. He's gotten married and has 3 daughters: Abby (14), Leah (10), and Eliana (6). Greg still plays soccer when he gets a chance, but most of his soccer lately has been on the coaching side with Ellie's team, which has been a lot of fun. He does make it out East every summer for a week or two, staying with his wife's family on Long Island, and imagines he'll make it back to Cornell when they start looking at colleges with Abby in a couple of years. He concludes: "If anyone finds

himself in this part of the world for some reason - or even if not - I'd love to hear from them. stymieg@gmail.com."

► 1996

Michael Salerno is an Assistant Professor of Cardiology, Radiology and Biomedical Engineering at the University of Virginia. His wife Cherie, and his two boys Christopher 3, and Joseph 1, live in the foothills of the blue-ridge mountains outside of Charlottesville VA. He writes: "If anyone is visiting the area please let me know!"

Cort Simpson and wife Alexis are very excited to report the birth of their first child, Isabella, on August 21! She'll only be seven weeks old by the time of the centennial, and they're sorry they won't be there. They're fortunate to live outside of Boston and get the chance to see several brothers in the area pretty regularly. "If you're ever in Boston and want to meet up," he writes, "look me up on Facebook and let me know!"

► 1999

Scott Levine is living in the Boston area with wife Melissa, dog Chopper, and newborn daughter Colette. For the last several years, he's been working as a UX designer, playing guitar, bass, and drums in local bands, producing records, gardening and doing Crossfit. He's been largely absent from the LXA scene, but recently had had the chance to catch up with Jim DelRosso and Tom Lank. He writes, ominously, "I do stalk others on Facebook though. I'm always watching. Always."

► 2001

We learned from the *Cornell Alumni News* that Eric Langstedt has published a new book about the early success of the Big Red Crew entitled *The Rise of Cornell Rowing 1871 to 1920*. Eric describes Cornell as a newcomer to the national rowing scene that made a big splash in July of 1875 when its freshman and varsity crews were surprise winners at the Intercollegiate regatta. They repeated the sweep a year later and the rest is history. Eric's book was published by Magnus Press and you'll find him at ericlangstedt@gmail.com.

► 2010

Bill Smith reports that David "Chip" Cronheim '07 was married last June to Hilary Coe Cronheim also '07. "Chip" was a past High Alpha and Bill lives with his younger brother Robert "Bobbo" Cronheim '10 in Hoboken, New Jersey. Fittingly, "Bobbo" proposed to his current fiancée Kristen Romanelli '10, a Tri Delt sister, in May with the wedding set for June 2014. Bill will answer at william-smith87@gmail.com.

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