



# THE PARTHENON

Alumni Newsletter of Alpha Zeta Delta of Chi Psi at the University of Illinois • September 2002

From the Corporation President

## To the Newest Lodge – The Long Journey Home

I was an undergraduate member of Chi Psi in 1987 during the 75th Anniversary of Alpha Zeta Delta's founding at the University of Illinois. We were coming off a strong year with 17 initiating in the fall and 8 initiating in the spring, and the future of the Alpha looked bright heading into the final quarter of her first century.

Six years later, in the fall of 1993, I was sitting in the living room of the Lodge at 912 South Second Street explaining to my fellow alumni why we could no longer afford to keep the 72-year-old building that had been the home to every Chi Psi at Illinois since 1921. Membership had dipped to only seven actives after the insurance carrier for Chi Psi declared the venerable Lodge uninsurable, resulting in the Lodge being closed, and estimates to perform needed repairs and renovations ran well over a million dollars. Our only option was to sell the property.

A unanimous vote of the 50+ alumni in attendance at that meeting showed the united support of the alumni in selling the Lodge. The Lodge at 912 South Second was sold to a local real estate developer and subsequently demolished in March 2004, only two years before her 75th birthday. With the prospects for purchasing or building a new Lodge several years away, the proceeds of the sale of the Lodge were donated to the Alpha's Educational Foundation to protect the funds from heavy capital gains taxes and to provide funding for scholarships and educational programs for the Alpha.

In the ensuing years, there have been three different Lodges in Champaign-Urbana that have grown in size and quality as the Alpha has grown. For the past



*The new Lodge at 110 East Armory in Champaign*

five years, the Lodge has been a traditional fraternity house at 311 East Armory in Champaign, a property owned by Alpha Chi Rho fraternity. During that time, Chi Psi has surged into a position of renewed strength on campus.

We are now only ten years from Alpha Zeta Delta's centennial, representing 100 years of uninterrupted existence at the University of Illinois, and we are at another turning point in the history of the Alpha. With the surprise return of Alpha Chi Rho fraternity to campus, this summer marked the end of our lease on the only Lodge the current group of undergraduates had ever known. Less than ten years after we suddenly found ourselves without a Lodge to call home, we once again faced a similar dilemma, and once again, we have positioned ourselves to turn a short-term setback into a long-term victory.

I stated in my article in the previous

issue of the Parthenon that the Alumni Corporation had made arrangements to lease the fraternity house at 110 East Armory in Champaign with an option to buy the property in May 2004. At a special meeting of the alumni on April 6, 2002, that decision was endorsed by unanimous approval of a resolution authorizing the Alumni Corporation to make arrangements to purchase the property within the next two years to serve as a permanent Lodge. Over the next few months, there were several developments that threatened our plans to finalize the contract and move into the new Lodge before our lease on the old Lodge expired July 15. It was a rough road, but we persevered, and on July 12 we signed a contract to purchase the Lodge on installment between now and June 2004. We moved in to our new home in Champaign over the next two days, and the undergraduates have been working hard since (Continued on page 3)

# An Initiation Banquet to Remember

The toast was made to Philip Spencer, there were a few remarks made, mostly light hearted, and then in seniority order, the Brothers of Zeta Delta filed into line for the food. In the Colonial Room of the Illini Union, the tone had been set not by the rain outside, but by the warm cheer on the inside. It was the Initiation Banquet for the class of '02.5. However this ceremony wasn't marked solely by the initiation of 7 new Brothers; it was marked by many other historic events.

First obviously was the return of the banquet to the Illini Union. For years the initiation banquet was held in the dining hall in the actual Lodge and while it served as a gathering place, the aura surrounding the Colonial Room was one of friendly formality, in line with initiation. While this marked the beginning of an era where something as simple yet symbolic as a meal will be shared in the proper place, it also marked the end of a different era, the era of 311.

For those who aren't so familiar, 311 was the address of our last Lodge. To

some of Zeta Delta's alumni, the number 311 doesn't mean a whole lot; not nearly what 912 means, or hopefully, what 110 will someday mean. But for many of the current undergraduates and recent alumni, the number 311 carries a very special meaning. To some it is the only Lodge they have ever known and experienced. I know for me personally it was the site of my initiation, an evening that I will never forget that is tied in with two years worth of memories with the Brotherhood. 311 East Armory is the site where Chi Psi returned to the U of I campus in the late nineties. Slowly, the Brotherhood grew and stood at 41 members last spring.

Come the start of the fall semester, 28 of these Brothers will be moving into the Lodge, however they will not be moving into 311. Instead 110 East Armory will be the new home to these Lodgers; a new home, and hopefully a final home. They will initiate new members and form new memories. Included in these memories will be the Lodge at 311, where we came from, and what enabled us to get a permanent home of our own. Included in these

memories will also be what everyone did for us and our Alpha's cause, returning the Lodge to the top of the Greek system at Illinois.

While 311 will be missed, 110 presents a new opportunity that will be seized. So as the Brothers of Zeta Delta filed out of the Colonial Room on that rainy day in May, they looked forward to a night of celebration, and also to the future, 110.

YITB,

Josh Hewes, ZD '04, #1

## Alpha Zeta Delta of Chi Psi Undergraduate Officers

#1 - Josh Hewes

#2 - Paul Parks

#3 - Alex Sagil

#4 - T.J. Nensel

#5 - Bill Novak

Rush chair - Nino Querubin

Social chair - Tim Coulombe

Scholarship chair - Whitney Brooks

Lodge Manager - Jeff Janssen

Historian - Bobby Ennesser

# The Life and Times of a Convention Delegate

Every year at the beginning of August, the National Fraternity holds Con-vention near one of the Alphas. A meeting of Brothers from all corners of the U.S. is always a jovial event. Each year Brothers come back to their home Alphas with new friends, interesting stories, and a better knowledge of the history and tradition that makes Chi Psi so great. For me, this year's Convention was my second since becoming a Brother, and although I only have one other to compare against, I suspect it blew most others out of the water.

Bright and early I woke up on a Wednesday afternoon to fly to Roanoke, Virginia. After a stopover in Pittsburgh, I got my first meeting with some of my other Brothers. About eight of us were booked on a connecting flight to Virginia, and instantly started talking about our Lodges and summer happenings. Once in Virginia, we drove to one of the smallest college towns possible, Lexington. A remote location somewhere on the edge of Appalachian Mountains, Lexington was a great venue for such a festive event.

Omicron Delta, the host Alpha, was celebrating its 25th anniversary at Washington & Lee University.

The first two days there included the Spencer Institute sessions, where the delegates discussed how to better run their Brotherhoods. Needless to say, there were many helpful examples of what not to do. Although maligned by some, the sessions were very informative and helpful, especially for us at Zeta Delta who are on the way up and looking for ways to grow.

One of the most memorable portions of Convention was the memorial service, which honored our four Brothers that were lost in the attacks on 911. A flagpole in front of the Lodge was dedicated to a young Omicron Delta alumnus, and a moving service was held in Lee Chapel, final resting place of General Robert E. Lee. There could have been very few more moving scenes than seeing the eulogies given about our fallen Brothers.

The last two days were the best part of the whole trip, which included the Convention sessions and the final Banquet. Brother Sam Perkins, OΔ'80,

one of the founders of the host Alpha, kept the mood light as he led the sometimes-long Convention sessions, making use of judicial robe and wig as well as a colorful disco ball. The final Banquet was no less entertaining with an excellent meal and an emotional awards presentation to both the Founders and Thayer trophy winners. Two underdog Alphas took home the hardware and bragging rights, as Alpha Chi (Amherst), and Alpha Sigma Delta (Duke) won the Founders and Thayer Trophies respectively. The joy and surprise that they had when their names were called was very exciting.

As I look back on the good times that I had at Convention, I can conclude that Chi Psi Fraternity, despite its faults, truly is a great brotherhood and it transcends regular relationships that we have with people on a regular basis. If you get a chance, go to Convention whenever you can, because every year you will have a great time and make some great friends, and that is what brotherhood is all about.

YITB,

T.J. Nensel, ZD '03, #4

(Corporation President, continued from page 1)

then to transform the place into a Lodge we can all be proud of.

We will be kicking off a capital fundraising campaign to support the purchase at the Chi Psi Reunion in Champaign on September 21. I encourage every alumnus to attend the Reunion if possible to tour the new Lodge, meet the current and future leaders of the Alpha, and find out more about the fundraising campaign. No financial solicitations for the campaign will take place at the event—the focus is on information and celebration. In addition to festivities at the Lodge throughout the weekend, plan on attending an Illini football game on Saturday and a Bears football game on Sunday.

The decision to move forward with the purchase of a new Lodge was only possible due to the Alpha's recent success on campus and their exceptional response to the new challenge that confronted them this Spring – a strong Spring initiate class, an increased number of Lodge contracts for this year, domination of the Orange division in intramural athletics, increased participation in Lodge study programs, a full social calendar including several sorority exchanges, and increasing influence in IFC and a wide variety of non-Greek campus organizations.

I have great confidence in the vision, talent, determination, and commitment of the actives and pledges of Alpha Zeta Delta. I also have great confidence in the loyalty and generosity of the alumni of Alpha Zeta Delta. We haven't won the Thayer trophy as the top Alpha in Chi Psi since 1953, but at this rate we are well positioned to win another very soon.

YITB,

Todd A. Fouts '89

Alumni Corporation President

## ALPHA ZETA DELTA FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President - George Dickson

Vice President - Stan Thoren

Secretary - Tom Humphris

Treasurer - Gary Dispensa

Trustees: Frank Huffman

Turk Glazebrook

Garry Herzog

# The State of the Greek System

This past semester I have been privileged to serve the Interfraternity Council as the Vice President of Recruitment. Throughout this time I have learned an invaluable amount of information regarding the current state of affairs of the Greek system here at U of I and where it is headed. As a soon-to-be-alumnus, I have realized that you might also like a report of how things are going with fraternities on campus.

The good news is that the Greek system at U of I is as strong as any you'll find in the world! Though 54 IFC fraternities may seem like a small number to some of you that remember U of I's heyday of over 100 fraternities, this number still ranks us as the largest Greek system in the world. The best news is that fraternity membership has quietly been growing here and our 2001-2002 fraternity membership was the highest it's been in nearly 20 years! As I'm sure most of you are aware, the Lodge has been a major player in this jump in membership as we are currently boasting almost 50 Brothers.

Both the Interfraternity Council and the Lodge are expecting one of our best recruitment years as well. Not wishing to rest on our laurels, the IFC has begun a few new initiatives to further increase recruitment numbers. This summer we distributed a recruitment CD-ROM packed with Greek information as well as a scholarship application to every incoming male student. We also provided tours

of fraternity houses during orientation and have expanded upon our advertisements on campus. These changes have already seen an increase in interest from incoming students, as my e-mail has been jammed nearly all summer with requests from students (and their parents) to learn even more about fraternities.

The Lodge has also continued with our increasingly successful Buell Scholarship and we have been graced with a number of relatives and friends of current Brothers who are already chomping at the bit to be a Lodger. Most importantly, we have a beautiful new Lodge to show off and more enthusiasm for the recruitment season than I've ever seen in my years at the Lodge.

For the sake of space I will simply leave you with my conclusion. The Greek system at the U of I is the best in the world and it is going to do nothing but grow and prosper in the near future. It is no coincidence that Alpha Zeta Delta is part of this growing system and we are quickly becoming one of the strongest chapters at U of I. You can all expect the same growth and prosperity to come to the Lodge in the near future as well. I know I will.

If you have any further questions, feel free to contact me at [rushfrth@uiuc.edu](mailto:rushfrth@uiuc.edu) or 217-840-1479.

Y.I.T.B.,

Neal Rushforth '03, Former #1,

Current IFC VP Recruitment

## ALPHA ZETA DELTA CORPORATION BOARD

President:	Todd Fouts '89	309-274-8662	<a href="mailto:toddfouts@yahoo.com">toddfouts@yahoo.com</a>
Vice-President:	Matt Hess '00	708-389-9409	<a href="mailto:mhess@kentlaw.edu">mhess@kentlaw.edu</a>
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Trustee:	Steve McFarlin '95	708-445-9811	<a href="mailto:McFarlin@aol.com">McFarlin@aol.com</a>
Trustee:	Matt Murphy '90	630-792-1561	<a href="mailto:MBMurph@aol.com">MBMurph@aol.com</a>
Undergrad #1:	Josh Hewes '04	217-531-2088	<a href="mailto:hewes@uiuc.edu">hewes@uiuc.edu</a>
Undergrad #2:	Paul Parks '03	217-531-2084	<a href="mailto:pparks@uiuc.edu">pparks@uiuc.edu</a>
Undergrad #3:	Alex Sagil '03	217-531-2084	<a href="mailto:sagil@uiuc.edu">sagil@uiuc.edu</a>
Undergrad #4:	T.J. Nensel '03	217-531-2084	<a href="mailto:nensel@uiuc.edu">nensel@uiuc.edu</a>

**If you'd like to get involved with the Corporation or a committee, contact Matt Hess for more information.**

# Don't Miss Chi Psi's Alumni Reunion Weekend

**Y**ou guys ready for some football?!? The AZA Alumni Reunion Weekend is right around the corner, and this year's reunion is one you don't want to miss. Festivities will begin on Friday evening, September 20, with a bar-b-que at the new Lodge (110 East Armory).

Saturday morning, after some breakfast, we'll all head over to Memorial Stadium to watch our Illini run circles around San Jose State. After the game, we'll head back to Lodge to the annual meeting of the Alumni Corporation and have a cocktail or two.

After some tailgating early Sunday morning, we'll head back to Memorial Stadium for the main event. Dez White, Christian Peter and the rest of the Chicago Bears will take on the New Orleans Saints Sunday afternoon

The Alumni Corporation has purchased a block of tickets for both the Illini game and the Bears game. The cost per ticket is \$25 for the Illini game, and \$55 for the Bears game. We've also got a block of hotel rooms reserved for both Friday and Saturday night at the Days Inn for \$87/night, plus tax.

If you would like to reserve a room, or put your name down for tickets, please contact me ASAP at **708-218-3121**, or [mhess@kentlaw.edu](mailto:mhess@kentlaw.edu).

The offense is all right...the defense is all right... the kicker is a little weird.

YITB, Matt Hess '00

## How to Reserve Your Space for Reunion?

- Need Tickets for Illini or Bears football?
  - Need Hotel Rooms for Friday or Saturday Night?
- For quickest response, call Matt Hess at **708-218-3121**, or e-mail at [mhess@kentlaw.edu](mailto:mhess@kentlaw.edu)
- Attending the Meetings or Receptions?
- Send your card back immediately or call Matt.

## Lost Chi Psis

Below is a list of lost Zeta Delta Brothers. If you know of their whereabouts, please email us at [dbgama@gilchristassociates.com](mailto:dbgama@gilchristassociates.com) or call 800-861-7023.

Feel free to send your updates on the enclosed reply slip.

W. Keith Armstrong '27	Donald R. Edson '63
William J. Hennig '37	Darrell L. Bolin '65
Edward J. Collins '38	John M. Hall '66
John E. Estes '41	William H. Ring '67
Richard E. Stanley '44	Eugene L. Nevenhoven '68
James K. Montgomery '48	Leslie R. Zimmerman '69
Richard H. Benton '49	James A. Lee '70
Hutchins D. Kealy '50	William A. Daggett '71
Robert E. Grossmann '53	Charles W. Blair '72
Richard C. Kain '53	Timothy E. Burt '72
Robert H. Kelly '55	Thomas H. Davies '74
James S. Christensen '56	John E. Koerner '74
John P. Campbell '57	John H. Chapman '76
Rodney A. Nilsson '58	David N. Titus '78
Stephen C. Shepherd '58	Bradley D. Smith '79
Joel S. Thrawl '58	Henry R. Dougherty '80
Richard E. Carr '62	Kenneth E. Klingenberg '82
Charles M. David '62	Bulent Tugal '86
Charles R. Scott '62	Michael D. Williams '86
John M. Stewart '62	Michael F. Otto '90
Russell L. Anderson '63	James S. Young '95
Wm R. Bradfield '63	Michael Paul Horton '01

## Friday 20 September 2002

8-10 P.M. Alumni Reception at Lodge

## Saturday 21 September 2002

9-10:30 A.M. Alumni Breakfast at the Lodge

11 A.M.-2 P.M. Illini Football vs. San Jose State at Memorial Stadium

2:30-4:00 P.M. Cookout at the Lodge

2:30-3:30 P.M. Alumni Corporation Board Meeting at the Lodge

3:30-4:30 P.M. Alumni Corporation Annual Meeting at the Lodge

6-8 P.M. Alumni Reception at the Lodge (followed by Social Event)

## Sunday 22 September 2002

10-11:30 A.M. Alumni Brunch at the Lodge

12-3 P.M. Chicago Bears vs. New Orleans Saints at Memorial Stadium

3:30-5 P.M. Open House at the Lodge

## Other Dates for Your Calendar

September 14	Illini vs. Arkansas State at Memorial Stadium
September 28	Illini vs. Michigan at Memorial Stadium
October 12	Illini vs. Purdue at Memorial Stadium
October 26	Illini vs. Indiana at Memorial Stadium
November 16	Illini vs. Ohio State at Memorial Stadium
December 7	Initiation Banquet at Illini Union - 12:00 P.M.

**2003:** May 24 Founders Day Banquet, at the Oak Park Country Club - 7:00 P.M.

July 12 Family Picnic & Softball Game at Terrace View Park in Oak Brook Terrace - 11:30 A.M. - 4 P.M.

August 30 Scholarship Banquet in Champaign

Sept. 26-27 Alumni Reunion Weekend in Champaign

## Chicago Bears Home Games at Memorial Stadium

*Stop by the Lodge whenever you're in town for a football game or just passing through!*

September 8 vs. Minnesota - 12 P.M.

September 22 vs. New Orleans - 12 P.M.

October 7 vs. Green Bay - 8 P.M.

November 3 vs. Philadelphia - 12 P.M.

November 11 vs. New England - 3:15 P.M.

November 24 vs. Detroit - 12:00 P.M.

December 15 vs. New York Jets - 12 P.M.

December 29 vs. Tampa Bay - 7:30 P.M.