From The Corporation President...

Longtime Friend Passes On

It is with deep sorrow that I announce the death of Vera Smith. Vera passed away last August in California. Only about half of you knew Vera, and you can certainly relate your fond remembrances to those who were not as privileged as we were. Vera was the other half of the team that took care of Delta for so long, during the '50s, '60s, and '70s. While Smitty toiled downstairs in our kitchen, Vera kept the upstairs in shape. They were good friends of several generations of Deltas and will be sorely missed. Vera spent the last year in a nursing home. Our pension checks, small as they were, provided some personal spending money for which she was very thankful.

The annual 6294 banquet was held at the chapter house on Saturday, April 30, with moderate alumni attendance. For those of you who did not attend, I would appreciate any suggestions as to how we could attract you to come next year. You may reach me at 617/661-1444 (days) or 508/1263-1713 (evenings). An item of curiosity, Mark B. Lively '69, A650, attended with his son, Peter S. Lively '97, A959, a freshman now living in the house. Much discussion centered on consideration of National, about which you received a letter from the active chapter. The house did vote on the matter, and I am happy to report that the decision was to remain with National.

The next time you make a donation to MIT, please consider designating IRDF (Independent Residence Development Fund). This fund is a way for alumni to support the independent resident community. The fund is used for improvement and renovation projects throughout the fraternity/sorority system at MIT. Theta Xi received help from this fund during a major renovation project two summers ago.

YITB.
Michael W. Dzieman, Δ725.

Delta Chapter Bonds Grow Stronger

Once again the gavel of leadership changes hands, and the president of the Delta Chapter is someone new. I have the distinct pleasure of continuing the recent tradition of the highest Delta in a pledge class being elected to this position. I am happy to say that the house is doing well, help week went extremely well, and we have eight new initiates, all of whom are strong additions to the rolls of Delta Chapter.

The house and I have been blessed with an enthusiastic group of officers. This fact, in addition to the recent renovations, which have allowed us to focus on other improvements besides maintenance, has encouraged us to try to move beyond the status quo. The officers and I have decided that improvements always need to be made and that we should be concerned not just with the upkeep of the house but also with progress. This is exemplified with a group of actives who, during help week, painted the Theta Xi crest at the top of the 66 stairwell.

The bonds of Delta Chapter are stronger now than I have seen them over my last four years here. This has given us the opportunity to deal with difficult issues that need addressing. One of the biggest issues was the recent change in our national's bylaws that requires a maximum 63-day pledge period. This change, which was voted in at the last national convention in August—I attended—was a drastic change to how we have traditionally run our pledge program. We have taken steps to evaluate what this means for Delta, but this process is nowhere near complete. Obviously, this is an issue that concerns all Deltas, and I hope that if you have ideas or concerns you will express them to us.

I am going to be very sad to leave this year upon my graduation. My best times at MIT happened at the house. This is not a very new sentiment; I am sure it is shared by all my pledge brothers and all the Deltas who have come before me. It isn’t new, but it is honest. Many times “older” Deltas say that things used to be done differently when they were pledges, that back in the good old days the house knew what it was doing. I am happy to say that I know the house has improved over the last four years and that I am leaving it in much more capable hands than it is in now.

YITB,
David J. Kessler, Δ927
President

During one of many Boston storms, Deltas volunteered their time to dig out some of the cars on Bay State Road.
Delta Hockey Team Goes Unbeaten

When we lost two key players this summer, we did not have too much hope for our IM hockey team. Anyway, we decided to stay in C+ league and try our best. Just for your information, C+ league in hockey is the equivalent of B league level play in other sports, since the A league in hockey has only three teams composed of mainly grad students who are ineligible to play varsity but could play it with ease. B league had five teams, and C+ league had seven teams.

We started the season with a win over Zeta Psi, 4-2. Then our super goalie, Oliver Sostre, turned varsity and left us with no one in net. The next two games we alternated goalies, using Dave Lippe and Joel Hugghins, both of whom did a great job. Our defense played very well, and Chris Drew was scoring a hat trick a game. By Christmas we had three wins and no losses. Over IAP we played two games—one a win and one a tie. In the tie, we were, unfortunately, missing several players, who were out of town due to IAP.

The second half of the season was nearly perfect. We found a new permanent goalie. Jeremy Warren, who was getting better and better with every game and who in my opinion has a great future at that position. Due to a mixup in scheduling, we ended having five more games to play, all of which we won most impressively. A complement to Jeremy in goal was the terrific defensive work of his brother, Matt Warren (a recent alumnus). Our offense was rounded out by Greg Christiana, Matt Courcy, Chris Merkel, and J. T. Hwang—who added checking to our arsenal. The house has to thank Jiri Schindler, a non-brother, who played in all of our games.

The excellent season had an even better ending. In our octathone game (the octathone is an eight-sport competition), we crushed ATO, 7-2. This victory earned us the maximum number of points possible for a single sport—only one other team was able to do that in hockey.

Rastislav Nukovic, Δ947
Hockey Captain

Senior Review

JUSTIN CORVINO, Δ920

If all goes according to plan, Justin will be in California next fall for sun, fun, and differential geometry. Of course, this means he'll be trading the daily trek across the Harvard Bridge for a trek across the campus of Stanford, but he thinks he can handle the change in the weather. We hope Stanford is ready for a person who appreciates both Howard Stern and Rush Limbaugh.

ROBERT MENDOZA, Δ921

Rob is taking it easy and enjoying his last term here at MIT. He will be graduating with his degree in civil engineering this spring and will then be entering the real world. Where and what? Well, after a 20-minute phone interview with one company, Rob decided on becoming an HMO manager in Lousiana and Texas. What was it they say about MIT students hardly ever going into jobs related to their major?...

CHRIS DREW, Δ922

MIT hasn't seen the last of Chris Drew. He will be joining us for at least one more term next year to finish his physics and theater degrees, although we rarely see him around the house this term since he has the lead in the spring drama shop production.

After graduation, his plans are as of yet unknown.

CHARLIE KO, Δ923

Charlie is another one with undecided future plans. He has not yet decided between grad school and working. Whichever he decides, he has already started escaping his desk this term in preparation for leaving behind undergraduate life this spring when he graduates with his degree in mechanical engineering.

ATEEV MEHROTRA, Δ925

Ateev has already left us, graduating a term early with a degree in environmental engineering. He is now traveling the globe for six months before he returns and enters medical school in the fall.

JAMES SELPH, Δ926

James will also still be haunting the halls of MIT for another year. He will be completing a five-year master's program in electrical engineering. His area of emphasis in course six is bioelectrical engineering, so it is no small surprise that medical school is a possibility after he graduates.

DAVID KESSLER, Δ927

Our current president, "Conflict Man" has kept discussions during house meetings lively. This will be his last term with us, as he is off to grad school next fall. Dave is most likely to attend UPenn grad school in economics and law.

YITB.
Christopher Merkel, Δ928
Let There Be Rush!

Well, rush may seem like it's a long way away, but the work has started. We will be looking to rush a class of 10. I don't plan on making any significant structural changes to rush this year. Official rush will start Friday, August 26. For those of you who are nearby, we welcome your help. Alumni help is always needed and very much appreciated. So come and prop us up when we're falling down from exhaustion.

Here is a list of the events for this next rush:

Friday, August 26
- Screening and giving away Theta Xi rush T-shirts
- Catered clambake in front yard
- Theta Xis Lend Hands
- Hell Week Successful
- Daiquiri party on the roofdeck

Saturday, August 27
- Breakfast
- Theta Xi Olympiad (soccer, volleyball, softball, and chillin' at a local park)
- International dinner
- Casino night

Sunday, August 28
- Pancake breakfast
- Canoe trip
- Dinner
- Boat cruise

Monday, August 29
- Bid dinner
- Mixer or party

Let's get this rush season started!

Colin Page

Rush Chair

Theta Xis Lend Hands To The Community

Replacing Ateev Mehrotra, a graduated senior, as community relations chair, I started the spring term with several service projects. During help week, as Deltas were moving into their new rooms, they donated clothes to the Salvation Army in Cambridge. In total we donated five large bags of clothes.

The latest volunteer activity was a blood drive at the Children's Hospital of Boston. After a house meeting one Sunday afternoon, nine Deltas donated blood at the hospital near Simmons College. "I fainted," said Jon Allen after donating for the first time, "but I'm glad that I gave the blood." The Deltas received free lunches and T-shirts for donating their time and blood.

Future activities include the Hunger Cleanup and the Community Service Fund Road Race. Organized at MIT by our own house manager, Joel Hugghins, IFC community relations chair, the Hunger Cleanup is a national campaign against hunger and homelessness. "It's like a Saturday works, with food," said one Delta. It's true that breakfast will be served, but we all know that we're out there to help others. And the weekend before finals week, the annual Community Service Fund Road Race will be held. Deltas are already enthusiastic about helping to organize the race. We are also planning to have a barbecue with an MIT sorority afterward. It looks like this term Deltas will solidly contribute to Boston's need for volunteers.

YITB, Andrew Chang, '95
Community Relations Chair

Hell Week Successful

Howdy, ya'll. To begin, hell week was a great success. With monetary constraints and an extensive work week, I focused on house cosmetics. The stairwell in 66 Bay State had another flight of white banisters stripped down to their original wood look. Finally, all the door frames are free of the coats of paint laid down in the '60s and '70s. Rausch even got a full paint job, identical to its last one, of course. In addition, we had some actives volunteer to paint a mural of the Theta Xi crest near the top of the 66 stairwell. The houses are coming along, but we are still restricted by funds for proper renovations. For instance, only one house has storm windows, which save on heating bills.

YITB, Joel Hugghins, '94
House Manager

Colin M. Page
Rush Chair

Some things never change. Brothers would always rather hang out than actually work. From left to right we have Don Hyun '97, Joey Chang '97, Peter Lively '97, Mike Evans '95, Martin Lewis '95, and Brett Rosen '96.

Do You Believe It? Two Years In A Row!

HOMECOMING AT MIT
October 15, 1994

YITB
Andrew Chang, '95
Community Relations Chair
We thank ROBERT R. IMSANDE ’42 for sending in his stories, some of which appear at right. Mail reaches Bob at 1416 Westwood Place, Escondido, CA 92026.

FRANK J. GALLAGHER JR. ’45 reports that he has seen JIM CRITCHLOW ’45, JOHN RANDOLPH ’48, and GEORGE CLIFFORD ’48. Frank spends his time salt-water fly-fishing and windsurfing. This past winter he went cross-country skiing daily and spent much time carrying firewood. “I'm on engineering for winter he went to marry Michelle in May. Jeff’s address is 306 registration (professional engineer—a state come visits from those here on the left coast license to provide engineering services).” or west bound.”

Keep in touch with GREGORY J. MacCALLUM ’81 at 158 Concord Rd., Apt. K-15, Billerica, MA 01821-04648. His wife, Debbie, is now a manager at Wellfleet Communications, Inc., in Billerica. He passes along the news that JEFF FLEMING ’80 was to marry Michelle in May. Jeff’s address is 306 Homepark Rd., Kingston, TN 37763.

Boasts WAYNE J. SWITZER ’84, “My wife gave birth to our third child. It’s a boy, and Mom (Cathy) and son (Joseph) are both healthy. Along with Sarah (3½) and Rachel (1½), he’s a real joy—and a challenge. While working as a manufacturing engineer, I’m struggling to build a structural engineering business of my own, capitalizing on my PE and improving the house (his). “I would welcome visits from those here on the left coast or west bound.”

Wayne enjoys regular contact with TOM MAPLES ’84 and WARREN BERGER ’82, both of whom also have babies. “I’ve also heard from BRYAN FORTSON ’82 (53W Old Fort Rd., San Pedro, CA 90731) and JIM TROLINGER ’84 (504 Brentwood Dr., Madison, AL 35758).” Send Wayne and Cathy congratulations at 165 Toll House Lane, Fairfield, CT 06432.

“I finished up my master’s in astronomical engineering for MIT in May,” writes JOHN H. DAVIS ’87, “and then the Air Force found a job for me here at Hanscom so that Pam and I could stay assigned together. It was a good thing that we were stationed together because Erin Louise was born on November 7, and Pam would have killed me if I was halfway across the country!” Congratulate them at 1 Fuller Rd., Lexington, MA 02173.

A composites design engineer with Sparta, Inc., MATTHEW W. THOMPSON ’89 resides at 2327 Lake Forest St., Escondido, CA 92026. He writes, “I’m soaking up a wonderfully warm winter here in sunny Southern California. Sorry, but can’t help gig-gling in glee each time I see another weather report from Boston claiming 14 inches dumped. And to think I voluntarily opted for Boston over Palo Alto!” Matt spends his free time pursuing an AA in fine furniture making and improving the house (his). “I would welcome visits from those here on the left coast or west bound.”

Boasts WAYNE J. SWITZER ’84, “My wife gave birth to our third child. It’s a boy, and Mom (Cathy) and son (Joseph) are both healthy. Along with Sarah (3½) and Rachel (1½), he’s a real joy—and a challenge. While working as a manufacturing engineer, I’m struggling to build a structural engineering business of my own, capitalizing on my PE and improving the house (his). “I would welcome visits from those here on the left coast or west bound.”

Icemen on ice: Our C+ team dominated the competition, outscoring opponents 44-8 over the year.

Deltas Strut Their Stuff On The Playing Fields

Once again many Theta Xis represented MIT on a variety of intercollegiate squads. Here is a rundown of their performances.

Junior COLIN PAGE ran enough personal bests in the 55-meter hurdles to qualify as a member of the All-New England track team. Freshman DON HYUN hustled after every ball off the wall in his first year with the squash team.

Junior MARTIN LEWIS continued his consistent strokes during his first year with the varsity crew squad.

Freshman JAMES HSIEH took up fencing during the past term and looks forward to the new season.

Two Deltas competed for the junior varsity volleyball team. JOEY CHANG served as a consistent back-up setter, while JOSEPH BRETON pounded his sets through the floor as an outside hitter.

Reminiscences Of The Past...

The actives love hearing stories of “how Delta used to be.” We received from Bob Imsande, A411, a recollection of some of his memories of Delta, and we wished to include some of them to share with the entire chapter. We’d really like to thank Delta 411 for taking the time to send these stories to us.

My first recollection is of our cook, Ella Schaeffer. I believe she was hired by the chapter after it was re-established following WWII. Prior to the war, the chapter apparently did not serve meals, but most were taken at her restaurant. The first day she reported for duty as cook, she wrote out a week’s menu—lunch and dinner—and posted it on the kitchen wall. That would have been about 1919-1920. When I pledged Delta in September of 1938, we were still operating on that exact same menu, and it was still in place on the kitchen wall. We knew to a certainty what would be served every noon and evening for our four years at Tech. And it proved to be true! If you didn’t like New England boiled dinner—which I didn’t—you could eat out around Kenmore Square on Monday night.

We weren’t so benevolent in those days regarding working hours. Ella and our house boy, Clarence, worked seven days a week, with only Sunday evening’s meal as time off. Then we would adjourn to various places around town. It was still the Depression, and we’d often go to White Tower or White Castle and argue them down from five cents to three cents each for their hamburgers in quantities of 12 or more. Usually we were successful. When we felt affluent, we’d enlist the aid of one of our foreign students at Tech and have a meal at a restaurant of sorts that specialized in his foods: Greek, Chinese, Armenian, etc. (Of course, in those days, the fraternity was “restricted”—over the vehement objections of the actives—but control rested in the grand lodge, which was prejudiced. So we couldn’t pledge Blacks, Orientals, Indians, or Jews—even Catholics were suspect, but allowed. Epsilon at Columbia lost its charter for pledging Jews.) So we couldn’t invite our foreign student friends to pledge, even though we thought of various devices to do so. For many years after leaving Tech and after WWII, I waged a battle with the grand lodge, along with others, that eventually changed the obnoxious rules.