

CHAPTER NEWS

Congratulations!

Brothers of Delta Tau Delta, It is my pleasure to announce the recipient of the Robert D. Burns scholarship for the 2018-2019 academic year. Please join me in congratulating **Jonathan Lambrinos!**

Best regards,
Professor Treber

Robert D. Burns Scholarship: Established in 2010 by alumni of Delta Tau Delta Fraternity in honor of professor emeritus and long-time Delta Tau Delta faculty adviser, Robert D. Burns. The income from the fund provides support to junior or senior students who are members in good standing of Delta Tau Delta Fraternity. The income shall be used to reduce the loan component in the financial aid package but not to replace any previously awarded scholarship grants or financial aid awards. In addition to financial need, preference shall be given to individuals who promote the ideals of Delta Tau Delta Fraternity, including: academic excellence, involvement in the Fraternity and Kenyon community, leadership, and strong character.

Chi Brings Home Two Awards!

Congratulations are in order, as Chi Chapter brought home two awards from the DTD Northern Division Conference the weekend of February 24. Chi was awarded for Excellence in Chapter growth, as well as campus involvement - keep up the good work guys!



THE CHI DELT

Chi Chapter • Delta Tau Delta Fraternity • Kenyon College • March 2018

www.chidelts.com

CHI CORNER

How A Kid Who Barely Had Two Nickels to Rub Together Learned The True Meaning Of Being a Chi Delt



Remember what being a Chi Delt meant to you? Did it give you more than you could ever return? Please read the following testimonial, and consider a gift in memory of what it meant, and still means, to be a Chi Delt. Our own **Pete Dolan '81**, wrote this message to dedicated alumni volunteer **Jeff Moritz '86**.

Pete Writes:

"I just got your thank you letter today telling me all the great things that the donations are doing for the Chi Deltas. With Thanksgiving just around the corner, it felt like a good time for me to share a little of what I'm thankful for when it comes to Delta Tau Delta. Firstly, I want to sincerely thank you for all the time and effort you put into the Chi Chapter Alumni Association (CCAA). The CCAA has been a great beneficiary of your countless hours and dedication. I often wonder if there would even be a CCAA if it weren't for you and your steadfast solitary mission to support the Chi Deltas at Kenyon. You are something special - I don't think there are many that could fill your shoes. My monetary contributions aren't much, but I will keep giving back to an organization that gave so much more to me. When I came

to Kenyon in 1976 I barely had two nickels to rub together. I was an inter-city Minneapolis kid with a full ride scholarship to a school I could not even afford to go see before I showed up a week late in September. As a swimmer I naturally gravitated towards the Chi Deltas. I wanted to join, but the dues weighed heavy on my mind. Doc Burns pulled me aside and told me not to worry about the fraternity dues, and that I could pay what I could and work off the rest around the fraternity doing odd jobs. I was delighted I could earn my way at the frat and did many things like cleaning, painting, and even some artwork to pay off some of my dues. I don't think I ever did enough to fully cover the costs but Doc Burns always stood behind me, encouraged me, and even quieted some of the other Deltas that voiced their disapproval over what they saw as a free ride. I will never forget how good Doc Burns treated me and will always try to pay his gracious generosity forward, especially to an organization that he believes in so strongly. You two make quite a team."

We hope, in that spirit, you'll enjoy this issue of *The Chi Delt*. Our Brothers are making great strides!

Notes from Standing Rock

by Henry Burbank '16

“Bridge Closed,” the spray-painted sign ominously read. There were three of us in the white, U.S. Government-plated Ford Expedition, and we were some ways away from the nearest dirt, let alone asphalt, road. For the past fifteen minutes, myself, the school janitor, and one of my seventh-grade students had driven up the sides of steep hills, down into pristine valleys, and through herds of cattle and prairie dog towns. Now the only thing separating us from our destination (my student’s house), was the Grand River, and the dilapidated bridge before us.

Since graduating from Kenyon in 2016, I’ve been living and working on the Standing Rock Sioux Reservation in South Dakota. Standing Rock made headlines last year during a tense standoff between activists and the North Dakota state government, but I decided to come here long before any of those events transpired. I was home for spring break and received an email offering me a spot with Teach for America, a highly-competitive organization that provides teachers to high-need schools across the country. I didn’t have much experience teaching, I knew next to nothing about South Dakota, and was hoping to work in Washington or one of the Presidential campaigns in 2016. “I don’t know if I want to say yes,” I remember thinking to myself at the time. “But I sure as hell don’t want to say no.”

A little over a year into the job, and I can confidently say that saying no would have been a terrible decision. After accepting the offer with Teach for America, I interviewed and was hired to teach a combined 7th and 8th grade classroom at Rock Creek Grant School. I teach all subjects, but primarily Math and Reading, to a total of eleven students across the two grades. I’d never heard of two grades being in the same classroom before, but I’d never worked in a “town” of 300 people



either. In addition to being tiny, Bullhead is extremely isolated. Once you leave the village (there’s only one road in and out), you’re 20 miles from the county seat and “city” of McLaughlin, population 600. From there, it’s almost 100 miles to Bismarck, North Dakota, the closest city with more than 5,000 inhabitants. Between

point, the horror just becomes routine.

However, people are working on solutions. Despite the abysmal economic statistics, Bullhead (or Rock Creek as it’s known in the Tribal Government) is innovating new ways to provide economic opportunities to its young people. With the help of local ranchers, for example, they’ve started a program that gives qualifying students five head of cattle that they can raise and sell. In addition to teaching basic agricultural skills, the students get to keep any calves (thus growing their principal) and any money earned is put into a college account.

Even the events surrounding the Dakota Access Pipeline last year brought positive byproducts to the region. After the protests began, there was a revival of popular interest in the culture and history of the region, both from insiders and outsiders. Thankfully, this interest has not gone away with the installation of the pipeline. To prevent Lakota, the language of Sitting Bull, Crazy Horse, and my students, from dying



Bullhead, McLaughlin, and Bismarck, travelers are greeted to views of rocky buttes and vast plains of scrubby grass. It’s beautiful, but in a terrifying kind of way.

The physical environment isn’t the only terrifying thing about life out here. Bullhead, and the Standing Rock Reservation generally, is a rough place to grow up. There’s not much industry in the town other than ranching, and there isn’t much capital either. The average household income is \$14,000 a year, and this, combined with the lack of job opportunities and physical isolation, makes it a hard place for an ambitious and smart kid to succeed. Drug use, particularly methamphetamine, is tragically commonplace. Sexual and domestic violence is a routine, if swept under the rug, problem, as well. Last year, two of my students experienced long-term hospitalization due to attempted suicides, and another student recently tried this year as well. After a certain

out, the Tribal Government has implemented a variety of initiatives. Among these is a full Lakota-immersion preschool program, which has been touted as an example of success.

I didn’t know much about Standing Rock when I said “Yes” last March. But after being here for over a year, I’ve learned a lot. Back then, I’d thought I’d be venturing into a poverty-ridden world forgotten by history and torn apart by injustice. The reality, as is often the case, is more complicated. Yes, my students and their families face serious and tragic problems, but it’d be false to say that the reservation is full of nothing but despair. Programs like the cattle loan and the Lakota Language Immersion School are providing opportunities to a new generation of leaders, and inspiration to those who’ve been working in this community their whole lives.

“After twenty-seven years of teaching,” one of my co-workers said, “I’m optimistic about our future.”

ALUMNI PROFILE

International Student Finds Home at Delta Tau Delta

Manjul Bhusal Sharma '16 joined the Chi Chapter of Delta Tau Delta as an international student in 2012.

"Delts were the most diverse fraternity in the Fall of 2012. They had people from almost every continent studying all different subjects at Kenyon, getting together to have fun and learn from each other. The brothers were welcoming and warm to me and I felt at home in no time," he says.

During his college experience, Sharma formed countless fond memories, but there are two that particularly stand out.

"I had always been impressed by the Senior Delts (Class of 2013), and during their senior week, I got to hang out with them, because I was on campus that summer for physics research," he says. "During that time, these guys, most of them champion varsity swimmers, taught me how to swim and told me all the fun stories from their time at Kenyon. I, in return, got to cook them some Nepali food. I am forever thankful to them... thanks to them I can swim now!"

"My second-favorite memory is about Kenyon's casino night," he continues. "Every February, there used to be this casino night,



thanks to Phebruary Funds. As a statistician fascinated with counting cards, I got together with a bunch of brothers and came up with a probabilistic model which would give us a significant advantage on the floor. We ended up winning the lion's share of the visa card giveaways, which funded a lot of barbeques for the rest of the semester."

After graduation, Sharma began working with Morningstar, Inc., an investment research firm in Chicago. He is on the corporate credit research team, where he does valuation and analysis of corporate bond issuers across multiple industry sectors. He's currently prepping for the CFA Level II exam.

He still keeps in touch with a lot of his brothers, and **Brother Jacob Pleasure '15** was a groomsman in his wedding, while many

others were in attendance to celebrate his marriage to his wife, also a Kenyon graduate.

He tries to see his brothers in person as much as possible, and in the last month alone, he's caught up with **Michael Marting '14**, **Alex O'Connor '17** and **Henry Burbank '16**.

At the end of the day, Sharma says Delta Tau Delta most importantly taught him not to judge a book by its cover, a skill that still serves him today.

"[Delta Tau Delta] taught me to try to see the good that is present in the people around us and to try to embody those in my own life. I remember this sentence from one of our documents that read something like 'whatever your strengths, the fraternity now claims right to them and whatever your weaknesses, the fraternity now demands that, with the help of your brothers, you get rid of them.' This has always struck a chord with me and so, whenever I meet new people, I take genuine interest in them and try to learn whatever it is that they can tell me about. So, to this day, this ability to network with people almost effortlessly has impacted my life positively," he says.

DEVELOPMENT

Alumni Lead Career Workshop

By Peter Orlos '18



Last Sunday, alumni **Jake Thorn '14** and **Michael Marting '14** came back to the hill in order to lead a career development workshop with the current Chi actives and pledge class. The workshop started

off with introductory remarks about the life and legacy of brother Byron J. Horn, the great power of our alumni network, and the ideal relationship that should exist between actives and alumni. Some of the topics that were included in the discussion were how to make the most of summers as an undergraduate, how to navigate our alumni network, and how to secure that first job or admission to professional school. Actives and pledges were also required to submit their resumes in order to receive personalized feedback about them. After a Q&A session in the Delt lounge, brothers shared their individual short and long term goals and a communication process was established where actives are able to share their interests, and alumni are able to provide opportunities using the Alumni Chair as a point of contact (currently **Peter Orlos '18**). The main conclusion to the evening was that Chi Delts provide actives with an incredibly extensive alumni network where no matter what one might be interested in, there are certainly alumni out there who are willing to offer professional advice.

RUSH

Annual Steak Dinner Caps Busy, Fun-Filled Rush Week for Chi

by Ben Reingold '19 - Rush Chair



Rush on campus was a busy and fun-filled week. On Monday, rushees were invited to the Lodge for S'mores and a relaxing evening with brothers. On Tuesday, 15 brothers and 15 rushees drove to Southside Diner in Mount Vernon for our (recently) traditional "Breakfast for Dinner." Thursday night saw us in Suite 33 at the Schott, watching the Ohio State men's basketball team lose a thriller after a Penn State buzzer-beater (less thrilling for those who root for OSU).

We brought 15 brothers to that event, and all were very impressed with the experience. It was a great opportunity to have fun with some rushees off campus. Friday night was our Lodge cookout and campfire. About a dozen rushees stopped by for burgers and hot dogs, and then a few stayed and sat at the campfire with some brothers. Sunday the Chapter hosted the final event for rush, our annual steak dinner. After a day of shopping and preparation, a truly collective cooking effort made for a great meal. It was an opportunity for brothers to get sentimental and share what they value about the Fraternity. Exiting rush week, we feel confident that we will be initiating a great group of quality men this spring.

WELCOME!

Chi Chapter Proudly Announces the Addition of 13 New Brothers.

Aman Abebe '21
Addis Ababa,
Ethiopia
Club Soccer

Harry Clennon '21
Santa Monica,
California
Kenyon
Democrats

Michael Devine '21
Oceanport, New
Jersey
Varsity Football

Noah Donoghue '21
Washington,
D.C.
Kokosingers

Mamadou Fofana '21
Columbus, Ohio
Varsity Football

Alex Gilkey '21
Birmingham,
Michigan

Simon Hua '21
Beijing, China
International
Students Assoc.

Jack Kane '21
Darien,
Connecticut
Buildings
and Grounds
Committee

Stephen Kelly '21
Bloomington,
Illinois
Club Soccer

Ben Morgan '21
Washington D.C.
Club Soccer

Adam Pollack '21
Sherborn,
Massachusetts
Varsity Football
Niall Regan '21
Berlin,
Massachusetts
Varsity Football

Ugi Zilinskas '21
Kedainiu,
Lithuania
Varsity Basketball



IN MEMORIAM

Our Thoughts are With the Friends and Families of the Following Deltas:



Lee Douglas Hoffer '80, entered the Chapter Eternal on June 12, 2017. He was 59 and a resident of Hummelstown, Pa. Born in Harrisburg, Pa, Doug grew up in nearby Hummelstown. At Kenyon, he majored in English, participating in swimming and track, and joined the Delta Tau Delta Fraternity, Chi Chapter.

An All-American swimmer at the college, Doug embarked on a career that earned him a reputation as one of the most successful swim coaches in Central Pennsylvania. Over his more than 31-year career, Doug coached countless high school All-Americans, Junior National Qualifiers and YMCA NAtional Champions. Some of his former swimmers would eventually earn Olympic berths. His true passion was athletic education, in which he blended creative swimming regimens, with cutting-edge strength-training routines.

Doug earned a Master's degree in divinity from Rhema Bible Training College in 1993. He and his wife hosted a radio ministry program for a time, but, as noted in an obituary, "his primary ministry venue

remained the swimming pool, where he fostered an atmosphere of camaraderie and inclusion, and encouraged his beloved swimmers to pursue the very best in themselves.

Doug is survived by his parents, Lora Lou Hetrick Hoffer and Lee A. Hoffer; his wife of 32 years, Deborah Grau Hoffer; a daughter, Evelyn Noelle Hoffer Jones; a son, Lee Hoffer Jr.; two stepsons, Donald A. Stetler and Bradley J. Stetler; three step-grandchildren; two brothers, Norman K.A. Hoffer and Matthew D. Hoffer; and several nephews and nieces.

Memorial contributions may be made to His Mansion Ministries, PO Box 40, Hillsborough, New Hampshire 03244, or to the International Fellowship of Christians and Jews, 30 North LaSalle St. Suite 4300 Chicago, Illinois 60602.



Jerome J. Looker (Chi '58), 81, of Rochester New York, entered the Chapter Eternal on June 29, 2017. Jerry was a native of Columbus, OH. He majored in Chemistry at Kenyon, played baseball,

basketball, and football, served in the Chase Society and on Student Council and joined the Chi Chapter of Delta Tau Delta. He earned his degree cum laude.

The recipient of a Charles Pfizer

Fellowship for graduate study, Jerry went on to earn masters and doctoral degrees from the University of Illinois. He undertook post-doctoral studies at Cornell University and then accepted a research position at Rochester's Eastman Kodak Company, where he spent his entire professional life.

Jerry was a lifelong athlete who treasured the camaraderie and fellowship of other sportsmen. As Corky Hammond, who went to a rival high school put it "I graduated from Upper Arlington HS in 1954 the same year Jerry graduated from Grandview HS where he was the star quarterback. Our two high schools were bitter rivals and always played the last football game of the year against each other. In 1953, our senior years, Grandview won, 13-6. Good game." His participation in baseball, basketball, and football gave way to the athletic endeavors he took up as an adult, including skiing, whitewater canoeing, and windsurfing. He transferred his abilities into cycling, running, and especially volleyball in later years, recently playing on a volleyball team in Empire State Senior Games.

Jerry is survived by a daughter, Lynda Looker Gurzenski; two sons, Scott Looker and Charles Looker; three grandchildren, among them **Noah A. Gurzenski '17**; four great-grandchildren; a sister, Elaine Looker Strutner; and his former wife, Marcia Mock.

Memorial contributions may be made to a youth athletic program of a donor's choice.