

Volume 10, Number 1

The Newsletter of the Alpha Delta Phi Society

June 2014

### Granite Chapter Hosts 14th Society Convention and Leadership Training Conference

The Alpha Delta Phi Society held its 14th Convention and Leadership Training Conference at the Granite Chapter in Durham, N.H.

The Convention agenda included reports from the officers, chapters, and affiliates. The Convention attendees also participated in Open Sessions (see article on page 7) allowing people to participate in conversations important to them and the development of their chapter or affiliate. At the Convention Banquet, the Society of Order of the Sword and Spear, the highest honor for an undergraduate, was awarded to Mike Rose, Brunonian 2013. The Society Order of the Star and Crescent, the highest honor for a graduate member, was awarded to Thomas Clark, Bowdoin 1999.

An illustrated recap of the Convention is featured on pages 4-5 of this *Society Xaipe*.

### Kodi Kadeem Beckles In Memoriam

We recently lost a Brother of our Plattsburgh Affiliate far too soon. Below is a beautiful letter written by Dr. Jon Chatlos, the faculty adviser of the Plattsburgh Affiliate:

I'm thinking of Kodi again this morning.

When I met him at Friday evening's induction celebration, he was outgoing, cool, smart and witty, respectful, full of life, and happy to be part of a Society dedicated to serving others. What a great guy! What a great group!



My few minutes with Kodi remind me of an important saying: "This is so little to have, and yet so much." In Kodi's death and in our grief, we can be sustained by his joy and reverence for life, his respect for others, his love of strong community, and his commitment to helping others. I'm thankful to have met him.

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Below, I'd like to share a poem to help us commemorate Kodi's memory My deepest sympathy to all of the siblings of the Plattsburgh Affiliate.

Sincerely, Dr. Chatlos

> When I Am Among the Trees Mary Oliver

When I am among the trees, especially the willows and the honey locust, equally the beech, the oaks and the pines, they give off such hints of gladness. I would almost say that they save me, and daily.

I am so distant from the hope of myself, in which I have goodness, and discernment, and never hurry through the world but walk slowly, and bow often.

Around me the trees stir in their leaves and call out, "Stay awhile." The light flows from their branches.

And they call again, "It's simple," they say, "and you too have come into the world to do this, to go easy, to be filled with light, and to shine."

Please contact President Chad Wolfsheimer or Vice President Kristen Soule if you'd like to reach out to the Plattsburgh Affiliate.

# Who is the Capital Affiliate?

by Sibling Laura Hellwig, Capital 2016

There is a new affiliate of the Alpha Delta Phi Society: the Capital Affiliate at the George Washington University, operating on campus as the Adelphi Society.

We are 5 freshmen, 4 sophomores, and a junior—8 women and 2 men. We study subjects across the board from International Affairs to Archaeology, Business Administration to Biology. Not only are we different in our areas of study, but also we come from across the country, including Virginia, Vermont, and California.

Besides the Society, we are involved in other activities all over campus including The Residence Hall Association, UNICEF, and Model United Nations. We are a diverse group of people who have found the Adelphi Society as our common ground.

There are many reasons why each of us joined the Phi. Most joined to find a family at GW. We wanted a group of people interested in learning who have different opinions, but with whom we share the same ideals. For us, the Adelphi Society is this group. We believe in commitment, respect, caring, and trust. We want to learn from each other and help each other grow for the rest of our lives.

Kellie French, our founder, started a chapter at GW because of a friend who is an Alpha Delt:

"I brought the Society to the GW campus after seeing the impact it had on one of my very close friends at UNH and UVM. Whenever Bethany talks about college, it is almost always connected to the Phi. She encouraged me to found the group so that I could create the type of lifelong friendships she had forged in her own time as an undergraduate. The appeal of a 'home away from home' also led me to believe that GW was the right environment for a chapter to thrive."

The new members of the Capital Affiliate would like to thank everyone who has helped us thus far, and we are excited to grow as a group with your support! Shout out to our Pledge Masters, Bigs, and other dedicated Alumni in DC: we would not be here today without you!



Capital Affiliate of the Adelphi Society's siblings with Theodore Roosevelt.





Photos from Convention (L-R): Star and Crescent Award Winner Thom Clark, a group selfie, the Granite Chapter Presidents help host the 14th Convention



## A Report from the Alpha Delta Phi Society's President

by Chad Wolfsheimer, Brunonian 2000 President, Alpha Delta Phi Society

In this season of graduations and reunions, I find myself reflecting on my network of friends. The extended network the Society offers has been a source of rich friendships for me personally, and I see so many other Alpha Delts whose close friends are Alpha Delts from other schools, decades, and geographic locations.

We can strengthen our lifelong experience and deepen these friendships by using the tenets of our Society as a guide. The Alpha Delta Phi Society is different from other communities in our lives because of the everlasting commitments we made to each other when we joined. We committed to help each other become better people and more productive members of our Society. We committed to hear each sibling's voice equally. We committed to perpetuate the Society and uphold its ideals throughout our lives. These are some of the premises upon which our Society stands and expands today.

These considerations that form the basis of the Alpha Delta Phi Society, combined with human nature, lead us to want to know what's going on around the Society. We want to understand how those ideals are upheld today, and we want to feel assured that, even with the passage of time and the inclusion of new members, we left a mark on the Society. It is common to wonder, to worry, and to gossip about what other people are doing for the community. These thoughts can even turn into fear and resentment. This isn't so different from the friends and communities we establish in other aspects of our lives.

The beauty of the Society is that our founder's aims, which we strive to uphold today, rally us to take action to minimize such negative elements. We aim to make this community a safe space to encourage each other to grow and to challenge our assumptions. Every generation of Alpha Delts receives a mandate to kindly share feedback with the intention to help the recipient, and every Alpha Delt has a responsibility to receive feedback in that same spirit, expectations that are surprisingly rare in most people's personal, academic, and professional lives. In the course of our lives as part of ADPS, be that running an undergraduate chapter, volunteering to coordinate the services of the national organization, or keeping in touch with Alpha Delt friends later in life, we owe it to each other to be honest and forthcoming about what we need.

We should communicate in this way because it leads to deeper friendships and more meaningful experiences. I've had countless opportunities to offer feedback or have difficult conversations with others. At times, I've thought it



Society President Chad Wolfsheimer, BRN '00, Addresses the Convention

would be more kind to avoid the topic or let time pass, but this choice has never led to a more positive future for me or the person I avoided. On the flip side, most of the times I've broached a difficult subject with someone have resulted in a renewed bond. When I openly acknowledge that a sibling has let me down and learn more about my sibling—or he or she does the same for me—it becomes much easier to forgive and to find a solution. It's a lesson I find myself learning again and again, but each time, it's deeply worthwhile.

We signed up for the responsibility to keep learning these lessons and to keep challenging ourselves—and each other to grow. I challenge us to live those commitments. When we are disappointed with our siblings for falling short of their commitments, we should express our disappointment directly and listen for ways we can improve together. When we feel ignored because our friends rescheduled a gettogether, we should let our friends know how we feel. And when we fail to live up to others' expectations, particularly when they've shared those expectations with us, we should strive to own our behavior and work to reach the next level.

When we politely and tactfully communicate expectations, give feedback, and listen to other perspectives, we strengthen the ties that bind us. I encourage each of you to approach your siblings with an intention for continual improvement through useful feedback.

(Continued on page 7)



The 14th Society Convention and Leadership Training Conference Group Photo.

# A FUNNY THING HAPPENED AT ADPS CONVENTION

By Bro. Zoë Reifsnyder, BDN '12

THURSDAY EVENING SOCIAL AT THE BOOK & BAR



RISK MANAGEMENT BINGO! BOBBI WAS IN ON IT THIS TIME

FRIDAY GRAD CAUCUS AT LIBBY'S BAR BECAME ....... KARAOKE NIGHT







#### BRO. THOM CLARK RECEIVED A WELL-DESERVED STAR & CRESCENT



### ALL IN ALL ...



PROCESS WAS DISCUSSED,

SONGS WERE SUNG, THE TIES THAT BIND WERE STRENGTHENED.

Thank you Granite Chapter for being stellar hosts!!

### ALPHA DELTA PHI SOCIETY 2013 FUND APPEAL HONOR ROLL

Includes Donations to the Alpha Delta Phi Society, Donations to the SELEF Chamberlain Fund, and Reported Contributed Expenses. Monthly Giving Club Donars in Italics.

#### PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE (\$2,500+)

Chad Wolfsheimer, BRN '00 Richard Schwartz, BRN '86 Robert G. McKelvey, MID '59 *Thomas Clark, BDN '99* 

#### CHAIRS OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE (\$500-999)

Charles Gross, Jr. BRN '72 Christina Van Aken, S '95 Eric McClelland, BRN '95 Jordan Copeland, BRN '94 Kenneth Osgood, MID '85 Lisa Copeland, BRN '94 Michael Blitstein, BRN '03 Nathan Harper Paul Neshamkin, COL '63 Thomas Giordano, COL '86

Alexander C. Mittman, BRN '11 Alexander Gard-Murray, BRN '09 Amanda Bennett, MID '96 Amanda Metskas, BRN '02 Anna Pettus, BING '13 Anthony Conti, GRN '09 April Trovillion Story, MID '10 Arthur M. Delmhorst, COL '60 Ashley Taylor, GRN Baird Bream, BRN '10 Brian Ferrell-Locke, BRN '01 Brian Guest, BRN '13 Briana Truesdale C Wesley Jackson, Jr, MID '55 Caitlin M. Gately, GRN '10 Canelina Boretos, GRN '13 Carl G. Hellman, S '57 Celina Kelly, COL '09 Chad Ferrell, BRN '02 Charles Allison, III, BRN '66 Charles Luband, BRN '90 Christine Treuhold, MID '13 David J. Erlich, S '84 David Offen, AM '73 Dena Schwartz, PENN '13 Don Davies, S '48 Douglas Bond, COR '66 E. D. Blodgett, BDN '51 Edmund LeFevre, BRN '86 Edward C Cerny, III, MID '65 Edward T. Koch, BDN '58 Elizabeth Spergel, MID '12 Emory W. Ackley, MID '65 Erhard Konerding, MID '94 Eric Ebeling, BDN '98 Eric Wheatley, BRN '94 Erik Bergman, COL '73 Erin K. Butler, BRN '14 Ethan Currens, BRN '10 Evan Finkelstein, BING '11 Frank R. Kitchell, AM '39

#### **GOVERNOR'S CIRCLE (\$1,000-2,499)**

Craig Cheslog, BDN '93 David Clodfelter, BDN '89 Jim Sabo, BDN '92 Kristen Soule, BRN '98 Raghav Sharma, BRN '96 Timothy Smith, BRN '93

#### SIBLINGS-IN-ARMS (\$250-499)

Alanna Kwoka, BRN '10 Andrew Del Donno, BRN '06 Christie Gibson, BRN '06 Douglas Clifford, COL '71 Elizabeth K. Flanagan, MID '83 John Sullivan, BRN '09 Katherine Iribe, MID '04 Leah M. Stern, MID '04 Leah M. Stern, MID '04 Leah M. Stern, MID '06 Mary M Melchior, MID '83 Peter Goldstein, BRN '08 Peter Kester, BDN '87 Steven D Crowe, S '67 Suzanne E. Gerrard, MID '94 Vihang Mehta, BRN '12

#### LILIES OF THE VALLEY (\$1-249)

George Beitzel, AM '50 Glen E. Ellis, S '83 Gregory Golrick, BRN '02 Hannah R. Gribetz, BRN '15 Howard Clarke Anawalt, S '60 Izabella Dennis, COL '07 J Mark Beamis, MID '77 Jamie Martin-McNaughton, BRN '03 Jean S. Coltart, BDN '99 Jeff Spokes, BRN '85 Jeffrey Burack, MID '83\* Jeffrey Yaus, MID '94 Jeremy Berkowitz, MID '10 Jesse Friedman, MID '11 Jessica Tran, BRN '15 Joan Matelli, MID '92 John F. Parkin, MID '57 John R. Marsland, MID '50 John Woodward, BDN '41 Joshua Feintuch, BRN '08 Joshua H. Silverman, COL '02 Julia Kelly, BRN '15 Kamala H. Krishnan, S '83 Katherine Gill, GRN '11 Katherine L. Jovin, BRN '07 Kimberly J. Ladd, MID '13 Kimberly J. Lloyd, BDN '00 Kimberly M. Jarry, GRN '13 Kristin Bergman, BRN '11 Lauren Ackerman, BDN '09 Lauren D. Levy, MID '91\* Leslie Starr, MID '03 Luppe R. Luppen, S '64 M Suzanne Nichols, BRN '91 M. Carl Johnson, MID '70 MacKay Wilford, MID '06 Mark Derby, BDN 95 Matthew Schechter, BDN '91 Maya Moran, COL '01 Melisa W. Lai-Becker, BRN '94 Melissa N. Diaz, BRN '10

Michael Yablonsky, BRN '93 Michelle Katz, MID '09 Nathan Perry, MID '12 Nicole C Annis, GRN '13 Paola Coda-Nunziante, S '85 Patrick Donovan, BRN '67 Peggy Nelling, MID '12 Peter O. Steege, MID '55 Philip Arevalo, BRN '11 Philip Smith, BRN '70 Randy Vogel, S '86 Richard Grimm, MID '68 Rob Austein Robert C. Wood, BRN '58 Robert Chase, BRN '48 Robert Mapel, S '45 Robert Pavacic, Jr BING '13 Robina R. Mitchell, GRN '13 Ross Pohling, BING '13 Ruben Martinez, BING '13 Ryan Taylor, BRN '15 Samuel A. Davidoff-Gore Sharon Sonenblum, BRN '02 Sean Moreau, GRN '14 Stephen Woods Susan J. Sampliner, BRN '77 Susan Wiczynski, BRN '87 Teague Hopkins, MID '06 Terrie Eastmade, BDN '97 Thomas Chestna, BRN '94 Victor Guttman, CAL '09 Victoria Sicard, GRN '14 Wayne Taylor, S '67 William Garvie Hall, S '55 William K. Wasch, MID '52 William Millard, IL '80 William N Tifft, BRN '77 Willis D. Reifsnyder, BDN '15 Yuliya Shneyderman, COL '00 Zachary P. Wilson, BRN '12

Our apologies if you have been mistakenly left off this list. Please e-mail michael.h.blitstein@gmail.com so we may make any necessary correction. Page 6

# Society Convention: Open Space Sessions

By Molly McGrath, Binghamton 2015

Following the success of break-out sessions during Convention 2013, Convention discussion was once again structured through the "Open Space" method, coordinated by Governor Leah Stern, Middletown 2006. Individuals brainstormed ideas for discussion. These individuals then led discussions, with several sessions occurring simultaneously. This allows conference attendees to come and go as they please when they feel they are no longer contributing or learning anything from a particular session.

The Open Source experience was particularly beneficial to me as a delegate of a young chapter. Alpha Delts offered their wisdom on topics such as recruitment of males, communication between undergraduates and alumni, and how to properly help members dealing with mental health issues. When there is a lack of precedent, advice from more established chapters is crucial.



Participating in an open-space Convention session.

Given the flexibility of this system, a wide range of ideas were debated. Some notable sessions included a re-working of a statement of values between ADPS and Alpha Delta Phi Fraternity, led by Society President Chad Wolfsheimer, Brunonian 2000, and a discussion of recruitment ideas for small affiliates led by undergraduate Max Morant, Pennsylvania 2015. The sessions addressed undergraduate, graduate, and Society-wide concerns, and provided an opportunity for interaction across generations and chapters.



Explaining the open-space Convention session concept.

"3-Form-Haiku"

By Seán Moreau, Granite 2014

Alpha Delta Phi. Star and Crescent Siblinghood. We've had so much fun; The weekend of a lifetime. UNH Granite: Convention Twenty Fourteen. Xaipe and Adieu.

# **Society President's Report (Continued)**

#### (continued from page 3)

It takes practice to get good at giving or receiving feedback graciously, but it's easy to take a first step to make our membership stronger. Here are five simple ways to get started. In the next week, try to do just one or two of them:

- 1. Call a friend with whom you haven't spoken recently, just to chat. Maybe schedule lunch or your next reunion.
- 2. Make a new friend in the Society. Ask someone you know (or email president@adps.org) to get you someone else's contact information, or find siblings on Facebook (https://www.facebook.com/groups/ alphadeltaphisociety/).

- 3. Email a Society, chapter, or project leader to find out what's important to him or her and why he or she took that role.
- 4. Come up with a project idea for the Society, your chapter, or your closest regional graduate organization, and ask for help to make it happen.
- 5. Donate to the Society at http://adps.org/donate, and then post in the Society's Facebook group why you gave.

Thank you for helping to make a difference and to make Alpha Delta Phi Society a positive lifelong experience.

# Your Support Makes a Difference—Thank you for Making the Convention Fundraising Challenge a Success!

Thank you for making the Convention Fundraising Challenge a resounding success! With your support, we raised close to \$16,000 during Convention!

Your support helps us do so much to further the goals of the Society. Your donation helps the undergrads visit other chapters for pledge events and initiations. Several chapters have plans to bring educational speakers to campus, and they can apply to the Samuel Eells Literary and Educational Foundation for reimbursement grants for those programs.

Your support fosters a lifelong experience of the Alpha Delta Phi Society by providing funds for Regional Graduate Organizations (RGOs). Located in areas with large concentrations of siblings, RGOs organize networking events and outings with Alpha Delts, from theater performances to ball games.

Your support grows the Society and lets us bring our values and traditions to more eager students at more campuses across the country. Our newest affiliate of the Adelphi Society at George Washington University in D.C. initiated their founding class on March 29<sup>th</sup>. Several generous matchers—including Rick Schwartz, Bob McKelvey, Chad Wolfsheimer, Eric McClelland, Andrew Lom, Mike and Marisa Blitstein, Raghav Sharma, Jim Sabo and Chas Gross—agreed to match donations by members under thirty years old. Many donations were matched 6:1 or better!

Young members rose to the challenge and stepped up above and beyond their efforts last year. Donations and participation both increased by 25% from last year!

With 59 young alumni donating close to \$2,000 to the Society and the support of our matchers, donations from young members and other Alpha Delts grew to almost \$16,000.

Thank you for your generous gifts to the Society.

P.S. It's always the right time to make a donation to the Society! Go to http://www.adps.org/donate to make a donation today.

### **ALPHA DELTA PHI SOCIETY**

OFFICERS President: Chad Wolfsheimer, Brunonian 2000 president@adps.org

Vice President: Kristen Soule, Brunonian 1999

Secretary: Ruben Martinez, Binghamton 2013 Assistant Secretary: Dena Schwartz, Penn 2013

Treasurer: Michael Blitstein, Brunonian 2003

Historian: A. Paul Neshamkin, Columbia 1963

Honorary Chair: Craig Cheslog, Bowdoin 1993

MAJOR INITIATIVE LEADS Development: Alanna Kwoka, Brunonian 2010

Executive Management: Jennifer Ragsdale, Brunonian 1998

Leadership Education: Leah Stern, Middletown 2006

New Chapters/Expansion: Bethany Brown, Granite/Vermont 2013

New Chapters/Affiliate Support: Ruben Martinez, Binghamton 2013

Society Regulations Research: Caitlin Gately, Granite 2011

HEADQUARTERS Assistant Executive Director: Terrie Eastmade, Bowdoin 1997

> 6126 Lincoln Avenue Morton Grove, IL 60053 847-581-1992 • hq@adps.org

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CHAPTERS AND AFFILIATES

Binghamton Chapter, Binghamton University Bowdoin College Graduate Organization Brunonian Chapter, Brown University Columbia Chapter, Columbia University Granite Chapter, University of New Hampshire Middletown Chapter, Wesleyan University Stanford Chapter, Stanford University Capital Affiliate of the Adelphi Society, George Washington University Penn Affiliate, University of Pennsylvania Plattsburgh Affiliate, SUNY Plattsburgh

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