

# The IOTA SIG



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[www.alphasig-rockledge.com](http://www.alphasig-rockledge.com)

SPRING 2001

## Rockledge Rises From The Ashes After Challenging Year

The phoenix was a mythical bird with splendid plumage reputed to live in the Arabian Desert. It lived for five or six centuries, after which it burned itself to death on a funeral pyre of twigs ignited by the sun and fanned by its own wings. It rose from the ashes with renewed youth to live through another cycle and was believed by the gods to be the symbol of hope and rebirth. As you know, the phoenix is also one of the symbols of our fraternity.

This has been a challenging year for the fraternity. It seemed like everyone was out to “burn” us—Ithaca, Cornell, Mother Nature, and chance. As owners of the Rockledge Estate, the corporation board had to respond to new building codes imposed by the city and new problems created by the march of time. This year we



have replaced the deck, repaired the roof, replaced much of the heating system, replaced the refrigerator, built a new garbage containment area, and changed the configuration of every room to include a free standing loft. There were also many little problems too numerous to list here. All in all, it's been a big headache.

The brotherhood, rising confidently from the ashes, came together to meet these challenges. The undergraduates organized all construction and repair efforts, often pitching in to save money and time. The corporation board met frequently to keep a

handle on activities and respond quickly to new demands. Our alumni came through with a record level of donations—up more than 50 percent from last year!

So we start the millennium in good shape for the future. Our goals for the coming year revolve around the continued upkeep and improvement of the house. Hoping to be more proactive than reactive, we are looking to upgrade the electrical system and completely redo the lower bathroom. And, of course, we will continue to fight fires as they pop up.

Thanks to all for help and encouragement this year. Rockledge rising!

Russ Kellner '94  
Corporation Treasurer

## Massive Rockledge Heritage Restoration Projects Under Way

I would feel like I was truly missing something if I didn't manage to bang my head and scrape my knees in the Dungeon, the Upper Hogg, and the other less-frequented catacombs of Rockledge at least once before I graduate. It was with this “can-do” spirit that I stole brother Novotny's ('99) obnoxiously large flashlight and opened the door to the crawlspace adjoining the P-Loft.

What I found there was more shocking

than I could have ever imagined. On racks and on the floor were probably 20 or more old composites, some dating as far back as the '40s. This was particularly surprising because I had been told by Matt Grodin '97 that, “all those damned Phi Sig guys stole [our missing composites] and threw them in the gorge, while brother Weiser '98 stood by and did nothing.” What a fool I was to believe him.

While some of the composites are miss-

ing photos or are in unusable condition, about 15 can be saved. In some cases we will have to combine consecutive years to get a complete composite—and by “we” I mean me and pledge Avi Giladi, who will be “helping” me repair and reframe them. It will be hours and hours of painstaking work, but I'm sure that we are up to it.

As an added bonus, I also recovered a large painting of House Father Peter Susca.

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### LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU AT 2001 REUNION WEEKEND JUNE 7-10

Alumni, family, and friends are invited to an informal reception on Saturday from 4-6:00 p.m. Refreshments will be served. Everyone is encouraged to visit Rockledge anytime during the weekend. For more information, call the house at 607/272-3993.

To see more classic photos and keep up on what's happening at the Rock, check out the Iota Web site at [www.alphasig-rockledge.com](http://www.alphasig-rockledge.com).



*Who are these fine men? Do you know?*

## ALUMNI MAILBAG

JAMES W. HAMILL '53 keeps in touch with ALAN CANTWELL '52 (Los Angeles), PAT CALLAHAN '52 (Hawaii), and BILL DELANEY '54 (Fairport, New York). Drop a line to Jim at 1330 Via Tennis, Palm Springs, CA 92262.

"It's been fun e-mailing with friends from Alpha Sig," writes J. GOLLAN ROOT '57 (475 Appleton St., Holyoke, MA 01040; s-g-root@mediaone.net), who is still an Episcopal priest and spent two months in a Spanish emersion program in Antigua, Guatemala. "Gollie" and wife Sue travel when they can—usually work related—and were planning a trip in February to Hokkaido and Okinawa, Japan.

ALBERT HUNTER '61, wife Renee, and boys Christian (8) and Adam (6) bought a cottage on a bluff overlooking the Rock River in Illinois. They have named it—what else—Rockledge West! Al, who is professor of sociology and urban studies at Northwestern, has a new book out on public policy called Pragmatic Liberalism. Write to them at 1040 Elmwood Ave., Evanston, IL 60202; ahunter@northwestern.edu.

BRUCE BURROWS '65 enjoyed seeing some old photos during a visit to Rockledge last July with wife Risa, daughter Nora (14), and son Eddie (12). "I was glad to read in the last Iota Sig that the house has been fixed up since I was there, and I sincerely hope the actives can keep the organization going." Write to Bruce at 1118 Arcturus Lane, Alexandria, VA 22308; burrows8473

@aol.com.

MICHAEL L. BROWN '66 sends us this new address: 230 173rd Pl. NE, Bellevue, WA 98008; mbrown@golder.com.

ROBERT V. STEWART '71 tries to see one Big Red hockey game each year, but this year's venue was unexpected—south Florida! He caught the first Ned Harkness Cup Tournament while on vacation in Naples. If you'd like to see a game in Princeton next season, contact "Laz" at 69 Claire Dr., Bridgewater, NJ 08807.

Congratulations to JOHN N. AMODEO '76 and his partner, Brian DeLorenzo, who will be celebrating their 10th anniversary with a commitment ceremony in June, followed by a month-long trip to Italy. Last fall, John traveled to Calgary to present a technical paper at an environmental symposium and spent a week hiking and canoeing in the high peaks of Banff National Park with Brian. Write to them at 8 Worcester Square, #1, Boston, MA 02118; jamodeo@crja.com.

DEAN J. COLLAMER '76 and wife Patty (Kappa Delta, Cornell) joined the Cornell Alumni Ambassador Network for York, Pennsylvania, last fall where they ran into PAUL WITT '70. Last October, Dean played in a golf tournament at Radison Greens with several brothers including, STEVE PAWLAK '76, KEVIN BURNS '76, CHIP STEPHENSON '76, BOB BOHNE '78, and HARVEY STENGER '77.

Say hello to Dean at 223 Hall Dr., Hanover, PA 17331; collamer@blazenut.net.

Sharon and CARL CORRIGAN '76 are the proud parents of daughter Grace, born July 16. "She's the cutest baby in the whole world!" Congratulate the Corrigan's at 1149 Bacon Way, Lafayette, CA 94549; carl.corrigan@kp.org.

Note this new address for MARCO SODI '77: 27 Pembridge Crescent, London W11 3DS, ENGLAND; sodim@veronicshunter.co.uk. Sodi and his wife were expecting child number four in April.

On June 17, 2000, GEORGE CELARDO '81 married Eliza Burchill in Kingston, Massachusetts. SONG TAN '82, Vicky and GLENN SWANSON '81, and Laurie and KARL DUELAND '81 attended. George and Eliza live in Boston, and both of them work at Verizon. If you need to fill a foursome in the Boston area, contact George at 61 Tyndale St., Roslindale, MA 02131; gbc5@cornell.edu.

ERIC GUNTHER '85 is pleased to announce his new position as a general surgeon in Farmington, Maine. Eric and wife Jodie are expecting their third child in June. The current address we have for Eric is 56 River St., Cooperstown, NY 13326-1328.

Say hello to SCOTT McCONNELL '86 at his new address of 20 Connaught Dr.,

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## Many Traditions Alive And Well At Rockledge—Remember This...

Tradition provides a link between current brothers and alumni. As undergrads, we love to hear the details of how traditions started and alumni love to see their traditions and legacies live on. Since most alumni do not make it back to Rockledge as frequently as we would hope, I wanted to write this article to share some of the traditions we still carry on devotedly.

If you aren't sure of the meaning of any of the traditions on this list or fear we have strayed from the Rockledge of your memories, please stop by or e-mail us to get reacquainted with the house. As one alumnus once said, "You can take the brother out of Rockledge, but you can't take the Rockledge out of a brother."

YITMC,  
Mike Summersgill

### **Pledging:**

- *The dusting of the bottles in champagne room is never neglected.*
- *The "Rockledge Goes To Broadway" skits and songs are as disturbing as ever.*
- *Hearing the alma mater stills warrants nervous looks over the shoulder from the pledges.*
- *Many pies are eaten and/or completely disfigured...*
- *PMP*

### **Dinners:**

- *Rockledge dinners still begin with the presidential gauntlet, are filled with dunkings, screams of "waiter," and nakedness, and end with, "Bus your..."*
- *The Gross table still does top-10 lists.*

### **The House:**

- *The Hogg is still the Hogg and the Morgue is still the Morgue.*
- *The bar is still affectionately referred to as the Republic of the DRB.*
- *Zippy's mailbox is still filled with garbage.*

### **Extracurricular Activities:**

- *Potatoes still find their way up to SAE and golf balls to ZBT.*
- *The month of April is still dedicated to Fools.*
- *We still do Greek God with AEPi and consistently come in second.*
- *We still send Sig Ep's would-be football players to the hospital.*

## Meet The Spring Pledge Class— *Nine Look Forward To Becoming Brothers*

This year's spring pledge class is small, but it is made up of nine quality guys with diverse personalities and interests. The sophomores are Dave Stringer and Kevin Wehe. Dave is from St. Louis and is the goalie for the Cornell water polo team. He is enrolled in the College of Arts and Sciences and has not decided on a major. He is considering chemistry and economics or possibly both. Kevin is from Bethesda, Maryland, and transferred to Cornell last spring from Indiana University. He is currently pursuing a degree in ARME.

The freshmen include Alec Chevalier, Avi Giladi, Ben Hawk, Jeff Platt, Joe Pylman, Seth Tueger, and me. Alec resides in Wellesley, Massachusetts. As an engineering major, Alec is following the footsteps of many of the brothers currently living at the house. However, at this point he has not decided what kind of engineering he wants to study. Avi is from West Orange, New Jersey. He is premed in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, but for a while he considered transferring to the hotel school. Avi is a huge Giants fan and this fall played for the Cornell rugby team until he

broke his leg. He is almost rehabilitated and will soon start playing again. Ben is from Stone Harbor, New Jersey. Like Alec, he is an engineer but is undecided about which field he will enter. However, he is committed to carrying on brother Ciconne's ('98) love for hard-core music. Jeff hails from Williamsville, New York, a suburb of Buffalo. A talented architecture student, Jeff has already been accepted to the master's architecture program at Cornell. Joe also represents upstate New York. He lives in New Hartford and is the lone ILR major in the pledge class. Seth is from Milburn, New Jersey. He is a government major but is also premed. In addition to carrying a heavy course load, Seth is a member of the water polo team. I'm from Waterville, Maine, and plan to study psychology.

Together, we have gotten to know the brothers, the house, and, of course, Willy. As a result, we have become a cohesive unit and would love to meet Rockledge alumni as we continue on our journey to becoming brothers.

Kyle Ratner



*A good time was had by all at the Valentine's Day Formal.*

## Massive Rockledge Heritage Restoration Projects Under Way

*(continued from page one)*

I can't imagine how it found its way to the attic, but it is now hanging prominently in the chapter room. We hope to have a plaque to go along with it soon, much like the one underneath the Charles "Bushy" Fox portrait in the library.

I am making the restoration of these objects of Rockledge heritage my own personal mission during my time here, as are many others. Udi Falkson '00 is working on getting new letters for the front of the house,

using photos from old Iota Sigs as a guide. Pledge Trueger immortalized the "Matt Hoffman '96 Beer Spot" in the bar with a commemorative plaque, and it looks terrific.

If you are one of the many who have stopped by recently only to notice that a composite dear to your heart is missing, please come by again soon. The halls of Alpha Sigma Phi might not be quite so bare come alumni weekend in June.

Dan McKinley '99

## Rockledge Has All-Around Appeal To Men At Cornell

During rush week, students partake in numerous rush activities. From open houses and smokers to paint-ball matches and road trips, members of the Greek system formally introduce themselves to freshmen. With more than 40 fraternities, how does one choose his home for the next three years? Usually, students attempt to find a house that most closely resembles their own personalities. With this said, the brothers of Alpha Sigma Phi create the personality of the fraternity.

Rockledge is an all-around fraternity. The house holds one of the highest GPAs on campus, and brothers continue to excel in fields ranging from neurobiology to hotel management. Job offers abound for all graduating seniors. Also, to counter the time commitments of pledging, weekly study hours are set aside for pledges.

Besides academics, Rockledge also excels in athletics. The Rockledge hockey, bowling, and volleyball teams have recently won crucial victories. Unlike some houses, every brother contributes to the victory in some way, and every brother is willing to give a new sport a try...or offers spirited cheering and heckling. After spring break, a pledge versus brother football game will be held with the theme "brothers always win."

Many brothers also contribute to the community. On March 9, Rockledge hosted its annual Greek god competition. Through the efforts of Philanthropy Chair Sam Wayne and our very own Avi Giladi, who won second place, the event was a huge success. Each fraternity sends a brother to participate in a talent show, and each sorority sends a judge to the event that fills the Statler Auditorium. Proceeds benefit two local charity organizations.

As a student during rush week, I found Rockledge to be the fraternity that most closely fit my personality. Some houses have labels such as the "football house" and "lacrosse house." Rockledge doesn't need such labels because the brothers excel in many different fields and are all-around individuals. At any time of the day, brothers can be found in the library, at the gym, or volunteering their time.

As a pledge, my beliefs about the house are being reaffirmed. On behalf of the pledge class, I am confident we all have made the right decision on where we want to live, and most important, the people with whom we want to live.

Joe Pylman

# ALUMNI MAILBAG

(continued from page two)

Weybridge, Surrey KT10 0XA, UK; scotn-fel@btinternet.com.

THOMAS A. GLICK '87 can be reached at his address of 4721 Chancery Way, Carmichael, CA 95608; tgllick@rivercats.com. Tom is now vice president of sales and marketing with Sacramento River Cats.

THOMAS C. EASLEY '87 and wife Andrea welcomed their first daughter, Emma Jane, into the world on October 18, 2000, and life has been a roller-coaster ride ever since. Send congratulations to 278 N. Cassady Ave., Bexley, OH 43209; tce1@cornell.edu. Tom was looking forward to Reunion this year and a visit with CHRIS WITTEMANN '90, JOSH SCHIENFELD '87, TODD SMALLEY '89, and MICHAEL HAUG '91 in Chicago this spring.

Tracy and MATTHEW D. HEALEY '89 moved into a new house at 20 Lancaster Lane in Bedford, New Hampshire (03110), 50 minutes north of Boston. Matt is still trading at Fidelity and enjoyed catching up with several brothers at the wedding of Elizabeth and PETE THAUER '87 last fall. Send Matt an e-mail at matt.healey@fmr.com.

Beth and CASEY WALLACH's ('89) daughter, Katie, was two years old in February. Mom and dad can't believe how fast time has flown since graduation, which really sank in when they returned to Cornell for Homecoming and a visit to Rockledge. Casey enjoys hearing about his brothers becoming fathers, attorneys, and doctors—"scary, actually"—and realizes what a wonderful experience he shared with them. Write to Casey at 2123 Shumard Oak Lane, Irving, TX 75063; ckw@att.net.

DAVID EVANS '90 married Erica Schorr and finished his Ph.D. at University of Wisconsin, Madison. David is now at the New England Regional Primate Research Center doing post-doc work in AIDS research. The couple's new address is 112 Mendon St., Bellingham, MA 02019, and David's e-mail is devans@hms.harvard.edu.

PETER W. HEDLUND '90 (449 Huron Ave., Cambridge, MA 02138) writes, "It was good to see about 10 Rockledge brothers at CHRIS WITTEMANN's ('90) wedding in Michigan last summer to the lovely Carol Fisher. Talks of Bwana Claus,



MIKE SHRIBERG '94 (123 N. State, #3, Ann Arbor, MI 48104; mshriber@umich.edu.) sent along the photo on this page, which was taken at his wedding in Cincinnati on May 28, 2000. From left are, DAVE "Peaboy" ELLNER '94, BRIAN "Stumpy" BERGER '94, JORDAN "Ratface" LISELLA '94, MATT "Dang" DAVITT '94, PATRICK "Flop" DOWD '94, MIKE "Shri" SHIRBERG '94, CHRIS "Zilch" ZACCARELLI '93, JOSH "Slappy" SCHRENKER '94, MARC "Maddog" HELLER '94, DAVE "Lurch" POGGI '94, STEVE "Wally" WOLMARK '94, and PAUL "Latka" CICOLELLA '94.

Smalley the drunken elf, and Damien's mystical powers helped us remember good times at the Rock." Peter now works with Sasaki Associates in Boston after finishing a master's in landscape architecture and a master's in city and regional planning from Cornell (phedlund@sasaki.com).

JASPER CORDERO '93 and his wife just bought their first house at 587 Spring Ave., Ridgewood, NJ 07450. E-mail "Rizzo" at jcordero@sapient.com.

When he wrote in January, DAVID ELLNER '94 was in the process of dissolving his law partnership with RON JOHNSTONE '93, but they continued to refer business to each other. Dave saw MARC HELLER '94 in Philly with his new wife, Penelope, and their baby, Lucious (2). Dave's new home address is 127 W. 79th St., #5E, New York, NY 10024; kuyons@aol.com.

Note this new e-mail address for DAVID N. POGGI '94 of dnpoggi@aol.com.

THOMAS HOGAN '96, who has had to overcome severe challenges, says hello to all his fellow brothers who are fighting to protect the rights of the disabled. Send best wishes to Tom at 95 Morgan St., Apt. 10J, Stamford, CT 06905; hogantom@hotmail.com.

## DECEASED

We regret to report the death of the following alumni:

WILLIAM G. CALLAHAN '34  
*September 15, 2000*

JOHN F. HAOLEY '29  
*December 26, 2000*

## THE IOTA SIG

Published regularly by Iota Chapter of Alpha Sigma Phi, Inc., for the members and friends of Alpha Sigma Phi Fraternity at Cornell University. All correspondence, including news items, changes of address, and photographs, is always welcome and should be sent to Alpha Sigma Phi at Cornell, P.O. Box 876, Ithaca, NY 14851-0876.