

# DELTA DISPATCH

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ΑΤΩ - UNIVERSITY of VIRGINIA



## President's Report: Reflecting on 2015

Matias Hahn ('17, 2016 Worthy Master)

Ray Hyser ('16, 2015 Worthy Master)

PRESIDENT'S REPORT 1

INCOMING CLASS 2

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN 4

We had a great semester of philanthropy, having hosted two successful events. Our annual acapella concert, Voices for Vets, successfully brought together Charlottesville veterans, along with their families, and UVA students to enjoy a night of stellar performances by the Virginia Gentlemen, the Hullabahoos, and the Flying V's. We raised over 700 dollars, which all went to Parade Rest Virginia, an organization that aims to help reintegrate veterans into society.

Not only did we host Voices for Vets, but our Junior Philanthropy Chair, Connor Daughton, took the initiative to partner with the American Red Cross to organize a blood drive on Grounds. Connor organized the brothers, and together we gave over 65 hours to help plan, advertise, and prepare the blood drive. By the end of the day we received enough donations to save nearly 90 lives! We greatly enjoyed planning both philanthropies and working with both Parade Rest Virginia and the American Red Cross. We look forward to continuing on our relationships with these organizations into the future..

One of our favorite weekend of the year was easily Alumni Weekend. Over 20 Delta alums and around 30 of their family members came back to Charlottesville for the Syracuse game and to meet the active brothers. On Friday night a few of the active brothers joined the alumni for a dinner at Jefferson Hall

with speeches from Bill Schmidt, and the former Worthy Master, Raymond Hyser. The alums and the active brothers then met at the house to catch up and get to know 125 Chancellor. The next night, the alums joined us at the house to dance to some classic hits played by the Bootsie Daniels Band.

Over the fall semester we reinstated the Public Relations Chair. After having fun with the alumni we realized we could not let this relationship decay, so we decided to strengthen it by having the PR Chair focus on reestablishing the ATO website provided by the UVA Alumni Association. Through this website we will post updates about the goings on of 125 Chancellor to give the alumni a look into the actives' lives. Additionally the PR Chair will do small things with other Greek Organizations such as sending letters to each house on their Founders Day.

To get brothers to spend more time hanging out at the house we have begun a meal plan through A Lil' Blue Café. Twice a week last semester we had brothers gather at the house to share a meal, and we aim to expand this to more days each week next semester. We have brothers involved in all sorts of ways on grounds, including research, service organizations, debate societies, and more. Fall of 2015 was a great semester for the Fraternity, and we look forward to the rest of Spring 2016 with our new brothers!





## ATO welcomes 18-person pledge class

Jake Wax ('17)

The 2015-2016 recruitment season was one of the most successful in recent memory. Although the already shortened recruitment schedule was altered by winter storm Jonas, the chapter adapted successfully. Given only one open house, the brothers were happy to deliver 105 first round invitations. Notable events this year included the classic Dominion Gun Range and a large surf and turf dinner.

I would attribute the success of this season to a renewed focus on smaller details of recruitment. This included a revamp of our invitations and bids as well as extensive planning and budgeting for events. A focus of mine was to ensure that the active brothers felt comfortable during rush. This meant relaxing my stance as the leader of the process and making few difficult requests, such as having every brother present to clean or deliver invitations.

The contributions of the Junior Chair, Taylor Veliz, and the rest of the recruitment committee cannot be overstated. The successful delegation of tasks made it so that no individual brother felt the entire weight of the process on their shoulders.

The Alpha Chi pledge class consists of 14 first years and 4 second years. These gentlemen all received bids during this recruitment season. The fall recruitment season has been extremely lackluster in the past two years. Only 12 men even signed up this past fall. For this reason, the chapter is focusing its efforts on meeting potential recruits in the fall to then bring to Spring recruitment. Our goal was to recruit enough men to maintain our numbers as 16 brothers graduate this spring, which we exceeded. I am ecstatic to present to you the Alpha Chi Pledge Class.

### Spring 2016 Alpha Chi Pledge Class

Adam Tivey  
Fleming Island, FL

Ethan Hodges  
Arlington, MA

Michael Knapp  
Harrisonburg, VA

Alec Dougherty  
Berkley Heights, NJ

Evan Argudo  
North East, MD

Michael Popper  
New Canaan, CT

Ben Cavanaugh  
Forest, VA

Grady Tollison  
Oxford, MS

Michael Rademacher  
Newtown, PA

Braxton Robbins  
White Stone, VA

Harpreet Singh  
Ashburn, VA

Peter Farkas  
Warren, MI

Carson Allen  
Fredricksburg, VA

Ian Linville  
Leesburg, VA

Sam Grimmelbein  
Arlington, VA

Drew Cadwell  
Williamsburg, VA

John Hepner  
Lexington, VA

Tucker Buzzell  
Fairfax, VA

# Bid Day 2016



## Officers of the Active Chapter

## Alumni Board of Trustees

Bill Beisswanger ('96)

Michael Bray ('10)

Peter Elbaor ('10)

Will Feeney ('12)

Tony Hall ('96)

Donnie Kidd ('96)

Matt Terry ('02)

John Sweeney ('09)

John Wells ('01)

David White ('62)

# A Refocused, Resurgent Delta Capital Campaign

John Sweeney

Brothers,

The Delta Chapter has come a long way since our refounding in 1994. Our emergence from the “fraternal wilderness” was beset with questions about our ability to succeed and endure as a major fraternity at UVa. We can happily report today those concerns have largely been put to rest. Our Chapter is on a firm financial footing, recruiting numbers have been consistently strong for over a decade, and the Active Chapter continues to achieve new standards of excellence.

Now we must build on those gains, look toward the future, and start planning for the next chapter in Delta’s history. Our house at 125 Chancellor Street has proven to be an excellent location for the chapter: it’s located in the heart of the Greek community, has the shortest commute to Grounds of any fraternity at UVa, and is situated very close to local area amenities such as student housing and The Corner. However, the existing house structure is nearly 120 years old, and was never intended for occupancy by a large group of men. The layout is not conducive for social events. Major, sometimes expensive repairs are often needed to keep the house in livable condition. These issues, if left unchecked, will likely grow in magnitude over time.

We must take action now if we are to secure ATΩ’s presence at UVa for past and future generations. As such, we are embarking on a broad 5-7 year capital campaign to fully renovate and revitalize the Chapter House, as well as add several bedrooms and a new “Great Room” to the existing facility. Renderings and construction estimates have been drawn up, and such a project is eminently feasible given our alumni fundraising capacity. But we need everyone’s participation. Raising the necessary funds will take time, dedication, and vision by the entire Delta family.

Over the next several months, you will be hearing from different alumni who will explain our plans for the house in further detail, and discuss how each of you may be able to contribute. Together, I am confident that we can make this happen, and help ensure ATΩ’s success at UVa for future generations.

L&R,

John Sweeney



## Submit an Alumni Update Today!

Let your fellow alumni know what you’re up to!

Submit an update using  
the enclosed form, or visit  
[atodelta.com](http://atodelta.com)  
to submit online!



## Spotlight: Jim Wiltsie ('17)



*Editor's note: Our spotlight series, new to the Dispatch, offers a glimpse into life on Grounds today, as told by an Active.*

The Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) trains America's next generation of military officers. ROTC demands the individuals involved to be held to a higher mental and physical standard. Navy ROTC, which I have been part of since matriculating at UVA, is no different.

Since Day 1, the discipline and professionalism expected in a military training program has been uppermost in my mind. It has dictated my decision making in my social activities. It has compelled me to focus on my studies. And it has obligated me to build friendships with people of the highest moral character.

It's no surprise then that most people would expect membership

in a social fraternity and membership in ROTC are mutually exclusive. But my experience with ATO has proven the opposite.

I was apprehensive in joining a fraternity at first. The time commitment was a big concern; Navy ROTC already took up a large part of my free time through pre-dawn runs and weekend drills. When I decided to join ATO, though, I was flattered in how understanding every brother was in my time constraints and ROTC responsibilities. There was never a moment where I ever had to choose between ROTC and ATO. On the rare occasion where there was a conflict, the brotherhood's understanding and consideration was evident. Everyone is consistently interested in my experience in Navy ROTC and I could not feel more welcome in the brotherhood.

As for the standard that ROTC students are expected to uphold, being a brother at ATO has only emphasized those qualities. A brother at ATO is expected to uphold himself in a clean, respectable manner every day with leadership and loyalty as qualities ATO brothers hold in the highest respect. The strong military history of ATO is evident in the values the brotherhood instills on its members and overall they are designed to help brothers become better men and better leaders. This has surely been true in my experience at ATO and these values greatly complement my military training. Being a brother at ATO has not only made me value the friendships I have made, but it has also helped me develop skills to be a better military officer in the future. I will always consider joining ATO as one of the best decisions I ever made at UVA.

### Save the Date ATO Reunion

ATO will be having a fall reunion celebrating the 155th reunion on October 15th, 2016.

More details to come!

### Alumni Dinners

Delta alumni are holding alumni dinners in Washington, DC and New York City on April .  
RSVP below to join.

DC: <https://deltaDC.splashthat.com/> or contact Mike Bray (mab6bf@virginia.edu)

New York: <https://deltaNYC.splashthat.com/> or contact Peter Elbaor (pelbaor@gmail.com)

# 125 Chancellor Street now professionally managed

We've tapped Piedmont Facilities Management to manage the Chapter House.

One of the main advantages of moving toward professional property maintenance is reduced time from the reporting of an issue to its resolution, since we will not be relying on the availability of a full-time student or volunteer alumnus. We'll also be able to better control costs and manage risk by having an indi-

vidual routinely inspect the property to spot maintenance issues before they become serious repair issues.

In recent years, Piedmont Facilities Management has been the primary contractor completing the small projects that fall beyond the expertise of the House Manager and many of the larger projects that require professional skill. We foresee many benefits to professional property maintenance, and are glad to have this plan in place.

## Board of Trustees Update

With Matt Terry ('02), stepping back from his 5-year role as Chairman, new BOT member Mike Bray ('10) was elected Chairman. John Sweeney ('09), Peter Elbaor ('10), Will Feeney ('12), and Greg Jacobs ('12) also joined the Board. The Board wishes to thank Matt for his dedicated service to the Chapter, as well as Chris Tate ('04), who stepped served as interim Chairman this summer.

Board of Trustees meetings are typically held three times during the academic year -- fall, winter and spring -- at the Chapter House with remote attendees via teleconference.

The BOT advises on chapter finances, risk policies, alumni outreach and maintenance of the physical Chapter House -- so there are many opportunities to assist with organizing and organizing out reunions, fundraising, publishing the Delta Dispatch. Email Peter Elbaor (pelbaor@gmail.com) if you're looking for low-involvement ways to get involved.

## Support ATΩ Delta Annual Giving Today!

Online at  
[atodelta.com](http://atodelta.com)

OR

Via the enclosed  
giving form

DELTA CHAPTER of  
**ALPHA TAU OMEGA**  
AT THE UNIVERSITY of VIRGINIA

Help us keep in touch with you by updating your information below:  
BE CERTAIN YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS IS INCLUDED AND UP TO DATE.

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Recent events, address updates, what you do for a living, etc. (You can also submit updates online!)  
And please send us photo-old and new (yes, we will return them).

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I am pleased to make a contribution of:  \$2,500 - Distinguished Service Society\*  \$1,000 - One Alpha Glenbrook Society\*  
 \$500 - Alpha and Gold  \$250 - Chancellor's Honor Society  \$75 - Delta Chapter  
 \$50 - Eagle Head Honor Society \*Special Recognition, including a permanent plaque in the ATΩ House.

Payment Method:  Credit Card (below)  Check, payable to: ATΩ CAPITAL FUND  
See web site for other payment options.

Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

NOTE: Contributions to the ATΩ Capital Fund are primarily used to support the Chapter house and publish alumni communications. This contribution status carries over until the University of Virginia, including its \$3 Billion Capital Campaign, and will receive all the recognition to such. Contributions to the ATΩ Capital Fund are not deductible as charitable contributions for income tax purposes.

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**ALPHA TAU OMEGA**  
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Medium	\$1,000 - \$2,500
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