



Alpha Chi Alpha

2013 Alumni Newsletter



From the Desk of the President

Ittai Eres '14

With the recent arrival of President Hanlon, and the veritable maelstrom of campus dialogue in the past several months, the coming year will be both exciting and challenging for the Greek system as a whole. Luckily, there is no house better prepared for this transition than AXA—both in terms of physical location and the state of the brotherhood. Now that I'm in my last year at Dartmouth, I can say without a doubt that AXA is the strongest, tightest, and most robust brotherhood on campus. Our membership in the Fall of 2013 stands at 73 brothers, whose passions and interests include everything from writing novels to competing for a spot in the 2016 Olympics. Though aspects of the house have changed over the course of the past year to comply with changes in college policy (particularly in regards to pledge term), many great traditions remain, and the changes made have only served to make us stronger. Alpha Chi now convenes once a term at our "Uniting the Chi" event to give people the opportunity to reflect on their experiences in the house, as well as discuss the direction we would like to go as a brotherhood. Although the beloved '13s class is now leaving, the twenty-six '14s and twenty-eight '15s are glad to welcome twenty-four '16s



Brothers new and old bond over the AXA experience

as new brothers. Looking ahead to the coming year, we hope to establish a permanent alumni board of overseers, to continue increasing our community service presence, to invest some of our savings in order to strengthen our finances, to mount speakers in the backyard, and to create more programs that facilitate individual connections between brothers. I look forward to meeting and hosting many of you over the coming year, as well as working together to further strengthen our thriving brotherhood.

The 2013 AXA Executive Board

Ittai Eres, *President*
 Nate Lewin, *Vice President*
 Paul Hogan, *House Manager*
 Ross Brown, *Treasurer*
 Don Casler, *Social Chair*

Andrew Roberts, *Social Chair*
 Sam Broer, *Programming Chair*
 Karl Schutz, *Service Chair*
 Bobby Esnard, *Secretary*

Brotherhood Update

Rush

After exciting fall rush and pledge term, we are incredibly honored to accept 24 new brothers into our Ranks. They have shown themselves to be quality young men who embody the spirit of *Fidelis et Suavis* in all the best ways.

Alex Bulteel '16
Bei Dai '16
Ben Ribovich '16
Ben Holland '16
Bob Klingenberger '16
Chris Dalldorf '16
Chris Leech '16
Dan Santana '16

Grant Schutzman '16
Henry Joyce '16
Hunter Estrada '16
Justin Levine '16
Kristo Jorgenson '16
Matt Krantz '16
Matt Barnes '16
Nick Shallow '16

Noah Rickerich '16
Robbie Herbst '16
Bobby Muttillainen '16
Sean Connolly '16
Simon Teich '16
Will Peisch '16
Bill Crockatt '16
Will Hickman '16

Senior Class

And with the addition of the '16s, it's time to say goodbye to the '13s. It has been a great 3 years with them, and those of us who have been lucky enough to share our time in Alpha Chi with them will surely miss their presence. While its sad to watch them go, we all know that they are moving on to bright futures. Here's a list of the '13s and their post-grad plans:

Alex Rausch: Studying for a PhD in Philosophy at Notre Dame.

Ben "Southy" Southworth '13: Studying for a PhD in Applied Math at CU Boulder.

Chris "Big Muffin" Rhodes '13: Studying for a Bachelor's of Engineering in the Thayer School.

Chris Hoder TH '13: Working as a Program Manager at Microsoft in Seattle, WA

Evan Gelfand '13: Working at Owler in San Mateo, CA.

Joe "Balls" Balistreri '13: Working as a Strategy Consultant at Dean and Company in Washington, DC.

Kevin Crowley '13: TBD.

Maan Tinna '13: Working as a Analyst at BNP Paribas in New York, NY

Max Sloan '13: Studying for a Bachelor's of Engineering in the Thayer School.

Paul "Fink" Finkelstein '13: Working as a Personnel Manager at the St Paul Chamber Orchestra in St Paul, MN

Robbie "Noky" Chalnoky: Working at Navigant Consulting in Washington, DC.

Ryan "RyCo" Collins '13: Working as a medical researcher in Boston, MA.

Steve Smith '13: Working at Bridgewater Associates in Westport, CT

Tommy McQuillan '13: Studying Medicine at Stanford.

Wenhao "Oh Shet" Shi '13: Working in healthcare consulting in New York, NY



Many of our seniors celebrating at graduation

Brotherhood and Programming

Chris Rhoades '13

In addition to the classic basement pong scene, the brotherhood of Alpha Chi Alpha bonded through a plethora of activities over the past year. From bringing the heat at intramural hockey games to hosting a cappella shows that filled our front room, we found ways to hang out together while giving back to the Dartmouth community.



Brothers learning the art of ice fishing

For the second year running, the brothers trekked to a frozen lake nestled in the New Hampshire wilderness. In this serene setting, our guide, Ray Crosby (of Pigstick grill-master fame) taught us the secrets of ice fishing. A few hours later, we had amassed more than 20 chain pickerel and plenty of anecdotes about Pigsticks of years past.



Sausagefest drew a great crowd

We also hosted the first-annual "Sausagefest" a cappella show. All four male Dartmouth a cappella groups performed in our house as we sold sausages and draft root beer to a full audience. Through the event, we raised over \$400 for the Upper Valley Haven, a local homeless shelter. In keeping with tradition, many of the seniors embarked on a spring break trip filled with big beers and good times. This year, the destination was Cancun, Mexico. The days were filled with beach volleyball, an open bar, and sunny skies. One highlight of the trip was an excursion to historic Chichen Itza.



Representing the Chi in Cancun

Weekly Tuesday Night Nacho Parties are as strong as ever, boasting exotic twists on the staple snack food, such as alligator and bleu cheese topped nachos. While most TNNPs involve listening to classical music on our new surround-sound stereo system in the front room, we also brought in a live jazz band for one unforgettable midnight snack break.

When the sun is shining in Hanover, you can always find us playing volleyball in the backyard. We hope you'll join us for a game next time you're in town!

Officer Reports

Service

Tommy McQuillian '13



Our '15 class at their pledge service event

Over the past year, we've loved to see AXA give back to the Upper Valley community. Through Alpha Chi's impact on the local community, the brothers grow closer and find more meaning in the fraternity. Last fall, we sent a team to participate in the CHaD Hero Half Marathon, to raise money for the Children's Hospital at Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center. We had many brothers participate in the 5K walk/run, with **John Conley '15** finishing

first of all the participants. We were able to get a fantastic amount of sponsorships, winning an award for the most money raised per brother. Our pledges also organized their own service project as part of their pledge term this year, and we saw all 26 fall pledges come together help out a local habitat for humanity project one weekend. And in the spring, we ran a Relay for Life team, walking to raise money for cancer research, and Alpha Chi contributed the most miles of any Greek house. Our achievements this year won us \$600 in various college service awards.



AXA in the CHaD "Hero" 5K

Treasurer

Robbie Cholnoky '13

Over the past year I have made an effort in coordination with the other execs to improve the house's financial situation, the physical plant, and the accessibility of the house to those on financial aid. Last spring and summer, we designed and sent out a capital campaign to all the alumni. We were overwhelmed with the response as we received donations from just over 50 alums that generated just over \$5,000. We have also been steadily increasing our savings over the past several years and aim to begin an endowment or trust in the not-too-far future in order to provide the house with a more sustainable fiscal situation.

Starting in the fall with the help of **Max Sloan '13**, our VP, and Virginia Hazen, head of the Financial Aid Office at Dartmouth, I created a scholarship fund to sponsor brothers who cannot afford house dues. Scholarships will be awarded to those with the most need based on the Financial Aid Office's determination. We have already given a number of scholarships and we hope to see participation rise in the future. We hope that this will alleviate the financial burden to our existing members, and open up possibilities for future brothers so Alpha Chi continues to bring together people from all backgrounds to foster friendship and outstanding brotherhood above all else.

House Manager

Paul Hogan '14

This past fall, we installed a new speaker system for the front room of the house. This consists of four satellite speakers and a 120-Watt subwoofer to provide high-quality sound upstairs for events and performances hosted by the brotherhood, including everything from sorority 'tails to the weekly hit, Tuesday Night Nacho Party (TNNP).

In the winter of 2013, I obtained copies of all the house yearbook photos since 1957 from alumnus **Tamer Shabaneh '07**. These photos are now framed and on display in the tube room. We are excited to incorporate elements of the history of the house into a study space that sees more use than ever before.



House history now on display in the tube room

We also purchased an energy star industrial stainless steel fridge for the basement, as the college provided one has almost come apart after three short years. The new fridge should last us much longer, and has proven effective in cooling our beers

Looking ahead, one of my biggest goals in house improvement projects for this year is a refurbishment and installation of the old wagon-wheel chandeliers from the barn into the Ryerson. This would add distinct Cheese Lodge character to an already very fidelic room. I would also like to install speakers for the backyard, to help make our already great backyard scenes even better.

Lastly, since construction of Kappa Delta's new house has begun between Theta and Tri-Delt, the college has been required to create new parking spaces to accommodate the new residents. At this point, we have now lost about half of the backyard to the new parking lot and the college has torn down the old deck and grill as part of the construction process. A retaining wall separates the backyard and volleyball court from the parking lot that is now shared between us, Theta, SigEp, Tri-Delt, KD, and KDE.



The new porch in the backyard

However, we've been working with the college to make the most of the situation. We continue to work with the Residential Operations office to negotiate more benefits to offset the loss of land as they construct Kappa Delta. The college has built us a beautiful new porch and plans are underway to install another grill. The volleyball court has stayed with us though this process, and it is not something that will be going away anytime soon. Although we'll certainly miss the lost space, it certainly won't stop us from enjoying casual grilling or volleyball scenes in the backyard, not to mention the best party at Dartmouth, Pigstick.

Social

Ryan Collins '13, Joe Balisitreri '13, Andrew Roberts '14 and Don Casler '14

The Cheese Lodge social machine churned out another highly successful year! Despite being harried by social probationary periods, the Chi was able to keep expanding our social draw on campus and continue to bust huge.



Seniors and underclassmen celebrate senior week with the annual "Chi Open" Circuit across campus

Winter 2013 unfortunately saw the judiciary shackles of the administration restrain the social scene at the Chi for 80% of the term, but the first two weeks featured a wildly-successful concert -- entitled "Black Ice" -- which featured four well-known regional electronic music producers and DJs. We managed to rage during probation as best we could, by holding meetings upstairs in the Nugget and trolling other houses to play pong.

Spring 2013 was crowned by our annual Pigstick event. Boston-based classic rock cover band Hypercane took to the stage as the headliner act while, yet again, Ingemar provided a flawless bluebird day for our revelries. The event garnered well over 1,000 guests and several dozen esteemed AXA alumni to boot. Rest assured, not an ounce of Collis Ray's delicious pig roast was spared.



Pigstick always draws a massive crowd

This Fall, we've been able to attract a wide variety of campus, despite new GLC rules not allowing us (or any other Greek house) to welcome in Freshman until after homecoming weekend. Although their presence was certainly missed, we've been able to have a great social scene this term. Our first annual "Big Party" attracted a great crowd to hear the musical stylings of Brooklyn-based artists CheddaSK and Mystress. We were also glad to see a great turnout from campus to hear Alpha Chi's newest cover band, *Burn the Barn*, consisting of **Tom Pears '15**, **John Cofer '15**, **Phil Larie '15**, and **Sam Farid '15**, perform in the basement.

Other social staples continue to include our once-termly "Boones & 40s" party, our Room-to-Room "Tails event on the Thursday night of Homecoming, Winter Carnival, and Green Key, our weekly "So Happy It's Thursday" party, and our continued success of having at least one event with each sorority on campus each term. All in all, it has been a fantastic run for the social scene at the Chi over the last year, and things are shaping up to keep moving in that direction for years to come.

Alumni Outreach and Capital Campaign

As the Class of 2013 finishes up its time in the house and joins the ranks of AXA alumni, and the class of 2014 takes the reins, we would like to talk a bit about alumni outreach and involvement at AXA.

In the past year we've been proud to see more involvement of our alumni in house. We've loved seeing all of you at Homecoming, Carnival, and Pigstick—and don't feel like you need to wait until a big weekend rolls around to stop by. If you're ever in the Hanover area, feel free to stop by: you're welcome at any social or brotherhood event happening at the house, and there are always brothers around.

We are also in the process of forming a new Alumni Advisory board to help the executive committee in running the house. We realize that, in the grand scheme of things, our executive boards hold office for an incredibly short period of time, and a time in which we are all incredibly busy. This gives us very little perspective and time to make lasting, long-term improvements to the house. We would like to form an Alumni Advisory Board in order to give AXA a stronger institutional memory and more long-term planning power.

We had a great preliminary meeting of Alumni to discuss how to form this board over homecoming. We'd like to thank Brian Powers '02, Ian Dumont '09, Joe Celli '11, and all of the other alumni who offered their input on the new board. Our next step is to get alumni involved in a more official manner, to keep progress moving once Ittai and I step down from our roles in the spring. We are currently looking for an alumnus to act as an interim head of the advisory board, likely for a period of six months to a year, to help us form the board and establish a better structure for our Alumni Relations. If you have any interest in fulfilling this role, or would like to know more, please get in touch with Ittai or myself. We would love to get as many alumni involved as we can. Other advisors have said that acting as a Greek House Advisor is one of the most rewarding things a Dartmouth alumnus can do.

And, as always, feel free to get in touch with us if you have thoughts, questions, comments, or just want to chat about the house!

Nate Lewin '14, Vice President
Nathaniel.J.Lewin.14@dartmouth.edu

The 2013 AXA Capital Campaign

We would like to thank all alumni who have contributed this past year. Your donations have allowed us to maintain and improve the physical plant as well as enable us to fund house events that make us the best brotherhood on campus.

Every term, house dues alone cost \$300 for every brother, not including social money. However, we strongly believe that financial constraints should never be a limiting factor to a brother having the full AXA experience. We have been very thankful to our treasurers, **Robbie Chohnoky '13** and **Ross Brown '14**, for their efforts in maintaining a scholarship fund, however our limited budget frees up very little space to sponsor as many brothers as we like. Thus far, we have only been able to budget \$500 towards the scholarship each term, which only covers a small fraction of the dues owed.

With this in mind, the 2013 capital campaign is aimed mainly at expanding our scholarship program to further alleviate the financial burden for those brothers who need it. In addition, we are always looking for capital to fund the brotherhood and social events that make the AXA experience so great. Any contribution can make a huge difference: \$60 can fund one of our weekly dinners, \$125 can fund a tails event, and \$300 is enough to fund one brother's dues for a term or finance most house improvement products. Alumni support is what allows the house to continue to thrive, and any contribution is greatly appreciated.

Donations can be made by credit card at <http://www.AlphaChiAlpha.org>, or sent by mail to:

Alpha Chi Alpha
 Hinman Box 5201
 Dartmouth College
 Hanover, NH 03755

If you would like to specify how your donation is spent, whether it should be put towards scholarships, house improvement, social or brotherhood events, let us know by making a note when you donate.