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The IOTA SIG



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Alpha Sigma Phi Fraternity



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SPRING 2007

An Important Message From The Alumni President

I recently returned from a ski vacation in the Alps (France, Switzerland, and Austria). It turns out—and I didn't realize it until I was there—that the Alps, and the Chamonix-Mt. Blanc region of France in particular, are basically Britain's ski playground (read *How the English Made the Alps* by Jim Ring if you are interested in history and the Alps). So it was not a coincidence the first people I met were Londoners staying at the same chalet.

As an American, I was a bit worried about being given a cool reception due to our country's unpopularity abroad. My concerns were quickly alleviated, though, as the Brits were very friendly. Maybe it was because they were on holiday as well, but I like to think it was because I was very charming, intelligent, and an overall exemplary ambassador for the United States.

The Brits and I had some good-spirited cultural exchanges over what I shall just refer to as "copious" amounts of wine and beer. At one point, the discourse turned to education and, somehow, to the extensive systems U.S. universities have in place for maintaining relationships with their alumni. I described the constant mailings, fundraisers, class reunions, regional alumni events, and so on. As a Cornell

alumnus, I'm guessing you might be familiar with such things as well.

The Brits were somewhat surprised by the strength of the ties we have to our universities. And I guess I was also surprised by their surprise. Apparently, this is not common in England, at least not according to the people I spoke with. They might have some connection to a club in which they took part, like rowing or football, but they don't donate money or visit their universities just out of some sense of nostalgia or loyalty.

All things considered, this is relatively small difference between two cultures. But it left me thinking what it would be like to have no connection at all to Cornell. My time there changed my life. I was challenged to the limits of my intellect—and beyond those limits in more than one instance. I learned how to learn. I was exposed to people from many cultures and economic backgrounds. By the time I graduated, I had developed a great sense of pride for what I had accomplished and a great respect for the institution.

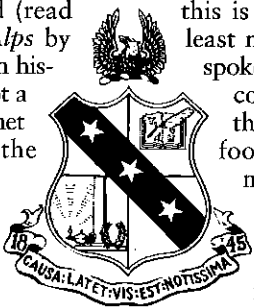
As you can imagine, I have an even greater connection to our fraternity than I do to Cornell. Not that I would pick one without the other—more that when I think of Cornell, my memories mostly

revolve around the fraternity and the brotherhood. I cannot imagine what life would be like without having gone to Cornell and joining Rockledge. I cannot imagine not having either of those places to return to. Can you? Just thinking about this has renewed my commitment to Rockledge.

I strongly urge you to take a few moments to consider what Rockledge means to you and what it would feel like if you were to return to Ithaca and find a vacant house at 804 Stewart Ave. If it is as unpleasant a thought to you as it is to me, then I hope you will also renew your commitment to our chapter. We are counting on you now more than ever.

On a final note, I think you will find this edition's installment of Profiles in Rockledge particularly interesting. And as always, feel free to contact me with any questions or comments. My e-mail is richgrousset@hotmail.com, and my phone number is (860) 913-8851. Thanks for reading!

YITMC,
Rich Grousset '98
Alumni President



Chapter President Reports On Rockledge

By the time you read this newsletter, the snow in Ithaca will have melted—or at least I hope it will have.

As the seasons change, so does the atmosphere at Rockledge. We have welcomed nine new pledges into the fold, thanks to the efforts of our rush chair, Lawrence Magguilli '07, and they are all excited to be here. A brief introduction of each pledge is enclosed in this

issue. However, as we welcome our new pledges, we must also recognize that this is the last semester for the seniors. They will be missed, and we all wish them the best of luck in their future endeavors.

Our new officers have done well in their respective positions, and we anticipate another strong showing with our end-of-the-year report for

(continued on page five)

It's now even easier to give to Rockledge

For your convenience, Rockledge is now accepting credit card payments. Instead of sending a check, you



can just send your credit card information, and we'll charge your account. We also accept credit card payments online at www.rockledge.org.

Fiscal Year Update

as of April 25

I'm proud to report that we are continuing to see the record level of alumni financial support I mentioned in the previous *Iota Sig*.

This is in no small part due to support from the class of 2003 and the class of 1995. Exactly half of the members of the class of 2003 have contributed since the start of this fiscal year (July 1), which is the highest participation rate among classes.

The class of 1995 has the largest gift total due mainly to a generous donations from Greg Medow '95, currently this year's leading donor, and Tom Hunter '95.

The top-five donating classes (in order of highest average contribution per member) are:

- Class of 1995
- Class of 2003
- Class of 1978
- Class of 1953
- Class of 1990

Thank you to everyone choosing to support Rockledge this year!

DONORS TO DATE

The following alumni have made gifts and/or paid dues during the current fiscal year (as of April 25, 2007)

PHOENIX CIRCLE (In order by donation amount)

Gregory R. Medow '95	Kevin C. Burns '79	Robert S. Fite '50
Thomas S. Hunter '95	Dwight H. Emauelson '57	Matthew L. Grodin '00
Brian Jones '78	Robert H. Goldenberg '00	Charles W. Hart '64
Michael B. Summersgill '03	Rodrigo H. Levy '90	William A. Jackson '67
Scott A. Beicke '97	Harlow G. Russell '83	Russell S. Kellner '97
Peter W. Biddle '69	Craig M. Stanley '85	Daniel G. Kurz '94
Collin Thomas Evans '03	Kenneth Von Schaumburg '54	William A. Niese '58
Udi Falkson '03	Alejandro Badia '85	Joshua B. Scheinfeld '90
Jeffrey Snedeker '78	Lance C. Bergstrom '62	Alan R. Thiel '70
Marco Sodi '80	James P. Bovard '53	Andrew Leadley Trice '86
Paul S. Witt '73	Hong K. Choi '90	
Louis A. Breskman '98	Vernon P. Ellinger '76	

CARDINAL CIRCLE (In alphabetical order)

Robert E. Allen '61	Michael J. Drew '94	Scott W. McConnell '89
Matthew C. Barron '89	Yanai A. Frank '93	Dennis E. McLaughlin '67
Christian L. Belady '83	James S. Freeman '69	Donald A. McNamara '51
Miroslav P. Bobek '91	Thomas A. Glick '90	Whinfield D. Melville '64
Andrew Robert Bonfiglio '03	Stephen L. Gross '84	Richard L. Neilson '54
Benjamin B. Busse '96	Richard J. Grousset II '98	Dennis P. Norfleet '65
Scott I. Buxbaum '05	David Evan Haddad '03	David N. Poggi '97
Patrick H. Callahan '55	James W. Hamill '55	Carl A. Popolo '78
Alan R. Cantwell, Jr. '55	Matthew D. Healey '92	Steven F. Rosing '61
Daniel P. Carroll '95	Robert P. Herwick '64	Robert Howard Ross '64
Phillip C. Carter '86	Steven J. Hewitson '94	Richard Edward Ryberg Jr. '67
John R. Chaya '89	John M. Hollis '50	Joseph W. Santamaria '62
Alec Hahn Chevalier '04	Bill Horowitz '73	Daniel N. Schildge '90
John J. Cipriano '67	V. Robert Hurka Jr. '65	Paul J. Schulte '89
Donald J. Clinton '80	Ross W. Johnson '57	Jamie S. Stallman '92
Paul B. Conan '88	Karl Benjamin Kaufman '03	Herbert L. Stephenson, II '79
Carl R. Corrigan '79	Matthew S. Kleinman '03	Jan J. VanHeiningen '60
Carl D. Crankshaw '53	Charles William Lake III '69	Thomas J. VanTiem Jr. '89
Frank J. Cutting '62	Alfred F. Ling '82	John C. Voellmicke '92
Dennis E. Ditch '65	L. Robert McAfoos '61	Robert V. Wagoner '60

CONTRIBUTORS (In alphabetical order)

John N. Amodio '79	Steffen D. Koehler '89	Erik J. Sandquist '95
Mark M. Anderson '68	Scott Jay Kurpiel '05	Norman W. Schiek '50
Clifford T. Argue '63	Ralph E. Lamar IV '83	Roy Eric Schmidt, Jr. '78
William C. Bauer III '67	Kenneth J. Lomba '72	Jordan K. Schwartz '02
Seth Madison Beausang '98	Thomas J. Lowell '89	Jason M. Scopp '93
George R. Bradley III '58	Kevin Andrew Manz '03	Bill E. Stempel '98
Dean J. Collamer '79	Clifford Terrance Markell '87	Stephen F. Sullivan '78
G. Brewer Conger, III '59	Andrew J. Martin '86	Ahmad R. Thomas '02
David J. Cook '62	Edward J. McCarthy II '90	J. L. Clifford Wagoner '61
David M. Dawson '61	Ronald Gilmore Meise '06	Russell J. Weiner '90
Gregg E. Dehner '95	Theodore W. Millsbaugh '84	
Milton B. Graff IV '65	Randolph E. Newman '74	
Robert P. Hargreaves '95	Richard P. Ohlenberg '79	
Les G. Hilger III '95	William A. Potts '41	
Jesse J. Jenner '69	Richard J. Quaranto '71	
Wade C. Johnson '44	Dan H. Rice '98	
Geoffrey M. Karny '70	Rowland Richards III '92	

Brothers Give Back To Community Through Day Of Service

On Saturday, February 24, a group of Rockledge brothers and pledges took part in a day of community service.

Twelve brothers and pledges were able to help a local non-profit organization—the Ithaca Neighborhood Housing Services (INHS)—with a renovation project in Ithaca. INHS specializes in buying dilapidated houses and properties in Ithaca, renovating them, and turning them into affordable housing.

The project was supervised by On-Site Volunteer Services, a student-run organization separate from Cornell University that pairs Ithacans (mostly Cornell students) with many local non-profit organizations for possible service opportunities.

Our specific day of service included finishing the demolition and gutting of a run-down house off of Route 89.

Rockledge brothers completed a variety of tasks—including ripping down drywall and insulation, pulling up floor tiles, shoveling snow paths outside, removing a wood stove, throwing away old building materials, and general cleanup.

After renovation is complete, the building will house a single family with children. The day of service was an overall great experience, where pledges and brothers had fun, hung out, and felt a sense of accomplishment at the end of the day.

Rockledge will continue its relationship with On-Site Volunteers, and we hope that this will lead to a greater number of opportunities for brothers to help the Ithaca community.

Linn Lung '08



Carlos Aguilar '08 and Linn Lung '08 celebrate during their day of service.

Physical Plant Remains Cared For, In Good Shape

It is early on Sunday morning, and the majority of the brothers are still resting from another eventful weekend.

The night before, the kitchen had given rise to many late-night snacks. Kitchen usage is a common metric of the successfulness of a weekend. In a few hours, our beloved chef, Vincent, will arrive to cook another delicious meal.

One brother, however, is active, while others sleep. Our newly elected steward, Edward Narea '08, treats the kitchen as if it were his child. He furiously scrubs the counters and reorganizes items such as condiments and spices so that the kitchen is spotless in time for Vincent's arrival.

Such a scene is not unique to Edward Narea. Each and every Alpha Sig has his own way of demonstrating his pride in Rockledge. We are extremely lucky to have a house of our own that possesses

such character. This is an integral part of the undergraduate brotherhood experience and reflects our personality.

Since brothers are given the ability to customize their rooms, each passing year at Rockledge adds another layer to the rich character of the house. We also focus on self-responsibility, choosing to clean the house ourselves instead of hiring a service to do so. Friends visiting from other colleges are consistently awed and jealous of our opportunity to live in such a beautiful house at such a beautiful location.

The undergraduate brotherhood has been working extensively with both the corporation board and handyman David Ruff in order to do our best to maintain the condition of the house. Recently, many improvements have focused on the security and safety of residents. For example, several new doors have been

installed that are superior for fire resistance and containment. Additionally, new locks are being installed on exterior doors to ensure that the house remains secure.

This being said, there are several major improvements beyond the scope of routine repairs that will be necessary in the near future. The brotherhood is excited and looking forward to the upcoming major renovation project over the next few years.

We appreciate the efforts of all alumni involved in the imminent success of this project. Together, we can all ensure that Rockledge's house will continue to be an integral part of the Alpha Sigma Phi experience at Cornell for years to come.

Carlos Aguilar '08
Jeff Melville '09
House Managers

Collegiate Housing and Infrastructure Act: An Update From National

The Collegiate Housing and Infrastructure Act would allow tax-deductible charitable contributions given to educational foundations to be used to make improvements to housing owned and operated for the benefit of college students.

This bill would make it substantially easier for Greeks nationwide to raise the money needed to install critical life-safety improvements in our chapter housing, expand housing capacity, and otherwise modernize the housing we provide to our

student members.

An earlier version of the Collegiate Housing and Infrastructure Act passed the House of Representatives in 2003 as part of a larger bill, but it failed to pass the Senate for political reasons beyond our control. When Congress ended its work in 2005, we had 151 House sponsors and 28 Senate sponsors, but we have to start all over again in 2007. As of March 20, 2007 we have 36 sponsors in the House and 9 sponsors in the Senate.

The Fraternity and Sorority Political

Action Committee was formed in March of 2005, so Greeks could work together to fund candidates for federal office who support policy initiatives that sustain and improve the fraternal experience.

The PAC proves that Greeks nationwide care enough about our issues to aid the election of candidates who will support our agenda. To learn more about the Collegiate Housing and Infrastructure Act or learn more about how to get involved visit Capital Fraternal Caucus at www.fraternalcaucus.org.

Profiles In Rockledge: Alex Counts '88

Our current HSP, Stephen Craven, and I had the pleasure of interviewing Alex Counts '88 for this installment of "Profiles in Rockledge." Alex is an extraordinary individual who has dedicated his life to an even more extraordinary cause. I'm sure you will enjoy reading about him just as much as we enjoyed talking to him. Thank you, Alex, for taking the time to speak with us. And thank you, also, to Phil Carter '86 for informing me of Alex's accomplishments and encouraging me to contact him.

YITMC,
Rich Grousset '98
Alumni President

Alex Counts '88 is the president and CEO of Grameen Foundation, a dynamic, non-profit organization based in Washington, D.C.

The foundation fights poverty by supporting micro-lending and social business enterprises and has grown to a global network of 52 microfinance partners in 22 countries. After working for his mentor, Dr. Muhammad Yunus, at Grameen Bank in Bangladesh, Counts founded Grameen Foundation in 1997 at the age of 34.

With only \$6,000 in seed capital and a charge from Dr. Yunus, Counts has led the organization into a role of catalyst, directing resources in the United States to support the poverty-focused microfinance movement. As of early 2007, the Grameen Foundation had impacted an estimated 11 million lives globally. Its annual budget has grown from \$100,000 in 1997 to over \$13.5 million today.

Grameen Foundation is active in promoting microcredit as a solution to poverty in the United States also. Counts also chairs the Board of Project Enterprise (www.projectenterprise.org) in New York City and is involved in similar efforts in Dallas and Los Angeles.

In 2006, Dr. Yunus and Grameen Bank received the Nobel Peace Prize "for their efforts to create economic and social development from below" ([see nobel-prize.org](http://nobel-prize.org)). Counts has been working with Dr. Yunus for 18 years and was designated to establish a U.S. organization to expand Grameen's anti-poverty work internationally. Alex's success at Grameen Foundation has brought more global attention to the work originally pioneered by Dr. Yunus and impacted the lives of three million families in the 22 countries where the foundation works. And Counts was also one of the only a small number

of non-Bangladeshis Dr. Yunus invited to the Nobel awards ceremony in Oslo.

Counts grew up in New York City and was partially attracted to Cornell for its "wide open spaces." His stepmother was also head of social work at Cornell Medical Center, which meant he received a nice tuition break. Alex was initially attracted to Rockledge because he felt the men were more interesting and the parties were better known than those of other fraternities.

He also worked at Willard Straight with Rockledge brother Ralph D'Onofrio '86, who Counts described as "a charismatic, funny, interesting guy." Ralph invited Alex to his first Rockledge party, and they remain friends to this day.

While at Cornell, Counts was actively involved in several organizations that eventually led him to his current career. He organized and signed up 3,000 people for the Oxfam Fast for a World Harvest, where people fasted for a day and Cornell Dining donated the value of the meals to Oxfam America for its anti-poverty work overseas. Alex also led a food drive for Loaves and Fishes, a local Ithaca soup kitchen.

But it was the Cornell in Washington program and his work with RESULTS, an organization dedicated to "creating the public and political will to end hunger and the worst aspects of poverty" ([see www.results.org](http://www.results.org)), where he first learned about micro-credit and Dr. Muhammad Yunus.

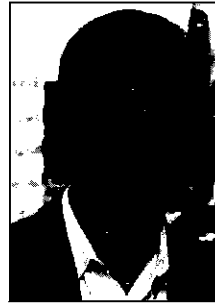
Counts graduated from Cornell in 1988 with a degree in economics. Then, as a winner of a Fulbright scholarship, he saw first-hand the dire poverty in Bangladesh along with the creative solutions being used to fight it. In fact, during the decade after he graduated, Counts spent much of his time in Bangladesh working under Dr. Yunus, the founder and managing director of the Grameen Bank.

Alex worked on Grameen Bank's largest publication, Grameen Dialogue, and was a regional project manager for CARE-Bangladesh. He also spent some time in the U.S. working as the legislative director of RESULTS.

Counts also found time to write a book. Counts' book, Give Us Credit: How Muhammad Yunus' Micro-lending Revolution is Empowering Women from Bangladesh to Chicago, was published by

Random House in 1996. He has also been published in the Washington Post, the International Herald Tribune, the Miami Herald, the Christian Science Monitor, and many others.

Counts currently lives in Washington, D.C. with his wife, Emily. He met Emily in January of 1991 while giving a talk at Stanford about the work he had been doing since graduating from Cornell. She lived in Reno at the time, but was originally from California. After his talk, they struck up a conversation, stayed in touch, and later got married. She lived with Alex in Bangladesh, and it was there that she developed her interest in



nutrition.

Emily now works for the State Department and oversees a foreign aid program in the area of child nutrition. In fact, she just recently returned from overseeing exciting nutrition programs in India.

Much of this information was taken from the Grameen Foundation website, www.grameenfoundation.org. I would encourage you all to visit the site and read more about Alex, his work, and his accomplishments, as they can hardly be done justice in just a brief article. You can send him e-mail at accounts@grameenfoundation.org.

Steve Craven '08
HSP

Excerpts from the interview

SC: At what point did you decide you wanted to dedicate yourself to fighting poverty?

AC: I guess it was brewing throughout my college years. I did Cornell in Washington for a semester and got involved in anti-poverty programs. I met Grameen Bank Founder Dr. Yunus, and someone who became a mentor of mine suggested that I go to work for Dr. Yunus in Bangladesh after graduating to study his microcredit model there. In the spring of '87, I decided to go. I learned Bengali at Cornell and secured the resources needed to travel and work there from a Fulbright fellowship. I had always been interested in fighting poverty, but until I met Dr. Yunus, I didn't see the pathway. Within a few months of graduating, I moved to Bangladesh and lived there for six of the next nine years.

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Brothers Enjoy Full, Active Social Calendar

So far, this year has seen two fun-filled semesters. Following our successful rock-star parties—where we showcased our revived house band—in the fall, the fun has continued during the spring semester.

After ushering in our new pledge class, the first social event we were treated to was a mixer with the girls of Tri-Delt. This was the first opportunity of the semester for brothers and pledges alike to party at a Rockledge house event. The fun certainly didn't stop with this mixer, though.

Not two weeks later, we enjoyed another mixer with a distinct Rockledge flair. After hours upon hours of preparation, our dining room was ready to host the 2007 Rockledge-Alpha Phi Food Fight. It was a pleasure to watch the first few volleys of Jello and pudding erupt into all-out trench warfare in the dining room. The fun and excitement of the event could best be observed at the end of the evening, as everyone

headed home for the night with smiles on their faces and food dripping off of every imaginable body part.

Soon after, Cupid paid a visit to Rockledge for our Valentine's Formal. Catered by our house chef, Vincent, the dinner was astounding. The success of this formal further proved that holding the event at the house is an excellent idea. Hopefully, this tradition will continue well into the future of Rockledge. After dinner, the couples enjoyed a night of music and dancing. These events—combined with our impromptu movie nights, poker tournaments, and pool tournaments—have truly set the bar high for the rest of the semester.

But we hope to surpass our previous successes when we roll out the red carpet for the ladies of Alpha Chi Omega at our Hollywood at Rockledge event later this spring. Not to leave out our newer additions, the pledges will be hosting their very own social event to gain a greater understanding of how the house operates.



Alpha Sigs and their dates enjoying the Valentine's Formal at Rockledge

Finally, to cap such an amazing school year, we plan to have a barbecue in the lovely May weather to celebrate Slope Day. Overlooking the gorge, the deck makes an excellent location for the brothers and guests to enjoy the view and company before making their way to the Slope Day entertainment.

Brothers Continue To Excel Academically

Alpha Sigma Phi has always flourished academically, but during the spring 2007 semester Rockledge reached a new pinnacle.

We recently acquired a new faculty adviser, Terry Herter—a professor in the Cornell astronomy department. He attended a dinner at our house on Sunday, February 11, and loved the environment. He expressed his inter-

est to serve as an active academic mentor for our fraternity. Though he will be leaving on sabbatical next fall to work on writing a book, we plan on hosting another special event with Professor Herter before the end of the semester.

Pending weather conditions, we will host a semi-formal social event where our adviser maps out the con-

stellations and features of the sky for brothers and their dates on a clear, starry evening. Integrating a faculty adviser within our community has always been important at Rockledge, and now we can really say that our academics have reached an astronomical level.

Daniel Berkowitz '08

Visit Us Online

Last spring, we announced the launch of our new alumni website, www.rockledge.org.

Around that time you should've also received a letter in the mail with a temporary username and password. If you did not get this letter or need technical help with the website, please send an e-mail to alumnirecords@rockledge.org.

We've been receiving great reviews from those visiting the site. Check it out!

Chapter President

(continued from page one)

the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Affairs.

We also welcomed a new faculty adviser, thanks in large part to the efforts of Rob Ulrich '08 and Dan Berkowitz '08. Professor Terry Herter is an astronomy professor here at Cornell, and he offers valuable resources to the house that may help us improve upon our already impressive 3.4 average GPA—fifth highest among Cornell fraternities.

As I mentioned in the fall 2006 edition of the *Iota Sig*, there is an air of excitement here at Rockledge. This is one thing that I do not

expect to change with the seasons. With the completion of a renovation feasibility study, upcoming major work on the chapter house, and the fast-approaching centennial anniversary, there is much to look forward to.

Finally, the undergraduates—and I especially—would like to extend our thanks and appreciation to Rich Grousset '98, the Corporation Board, and all alumni for their continued support and efforts. My tenure is coming to an end, but it was infinitely easier because of the assistance you have all given me.

Steve Craven '08
HSP

Please Help Us Welcome The 2007 Pledge Class

The 2007 Alpha Sigma Phi pledge class is a very diverse and eclectic group of young men who hail from Los Angeles, New York City, and everywhere in between.

They have varying interests that include sports, relaxing with friends, music, billiards, and just having a good time. Our pledge class has become a very close, tightly knit group over the course of the last few weeks of pledging. So without further ado, I present to you Alpha Sigma Phi's 2007 pledge class:

Jeffrey Chen hails from San Marino, California—10 minutes from the heart of Los Angeles. Back in Cali, he enjoys playing guitar, skateboarding, palms trees, hanging out, going to the beach, and being a hippie. He likes playing baseball and football and would like to be more active in sports. He'll have his chance once the weather gets nice in Ithaca again.

Kevin Morrison was born in Morristown, New Jersey, approximately 45 minutes outside of New York City. He would like to be more active in sports, such as football and basketball. He is working hard to keep off the "freshman 15." Kevin is also a fan of everything Frisbee, ranging from a casual game of Frisbee golf to more intense ultimate Frisbee. In high school, Kevin was very active in his local community. He would like to bring that same attitude with him to Cornell and help out the Ithaca community in any way that he can.

Originally from Tokyo, Japan, Shane Rasnak comes from the warm rock in the middle of the Pacific known as Maui. Back home, where he never once spent an entire day in a hoodie, he spent the majority of his life skateboarding, going to the beach, and pool hopping. Here in Ithaca, he enjoys eating at Appel, working at RPCC, and snowboarding at Greek Peak. He is still getting used to the slight climate difference between Ithaca and the Hawaiian Islands.

David Flickinger is from New York City. He enjoys chocolate milkshakes, billiards, baseball, football,

Nintendo 64, the Buffalo Bills, the Yankees, and partying. His goal in life is to accumulate as many funny and awesome stories as possible so when he is on his deathbed and looks back at his life he can see that he led one wacky, wild, and adventurous life.

Miroslav Kostyuk is from Toronto via Russia. Miro is quite the business entrepreneur. He uses his vast knowledge of the stock market to invest and makes so much money that he can afford fancy cars and sharp clothes. He enjoys going on long, relaxing car rides in order to clear his head, similar to the scene in *Rocky IV* where Rocky goes on a long drive after Apollo dies. Ironically, Miro loves his *Survivor* music. Two of Miro's passions have always been deep-sea fishing and a good steak. Miro's dream is to one day own his own bakery and have a large, loving family.

Chris Curran is from Concord, Massachusetts, 20 minutes from Boston. He enjoys skiing, poker, paintball, and *Halo*. At Cornell, he's majoring in hotel administration and is involved in Hotel Ezra Cornell and the Cornell Ambassadors. He likes playing basketball, football, or any random pickup game. An interesting

fact about Chris is that at one point he was addicted to video games, but has overcome that addiction.

Justin Brooks is from La Cañada, California, and is an electrical engineering major. Most of his free time is spent partying, working, or gaming. He's a big fan of shooting games, but has recently been getting into soccer. He also spends time in the gym lifting weights when he can. Mostly, he's just into anything exciting that involves meeting new people.

Boris Senderovich was born in the Tran Carpathian Mountains of Western Ukraine. He moved to Brooklyn, New York, when he was 7 in 1993. He was raised around traditional Russian customs with a slight influx of Jewish culture. In school, he gravitated toward math and the sciences and enjoyed playing chess and sports on the side. At Cornell, he believes he has changed significantly as a person and feels that his college years have been the first real "American" experience he has had.

Alpha Sigma Phi's pledge class of 2007 is a very interesting group of men, a group that should make an excellent addition to the halls of Alpha Sigma Phi.

David Flickinger '10



Adam Mikulka '98 (left), Craig Hauret '98 (middle), and Mr. and Mrs. Joshua Schrenker '97 (right) celebrate this past New Year's Eve at Josh Klein's '98 apartment in New York City.

ALUMNI, WE WANT YOUR STORIES

We are always looking to increase the amount of alumni-generated content in the *Iota Sig*. Do you have something you want to say? Do you have an interesting story? We want it! Please contact Rich Grousset '98 at (860) 913-8851 or richgrousset@hotmail.com

Profiles in Rockledge

(continued from page five)

SC: In a February issue of Fortune Magazine there is an article about Muhammad Yunus that mentions 'social business enterprise' as being the evolution of the microcredit idea. Is this something you and the Grameen Foundation will be pursuing? Can you explain a little bit about that concept?

AC: We already are pursuing it. The idea of microcredit is a hybrid between a non-profit organization—basically a charity, which spends money and effort on fighting poverty—and a for-profit organization, whose goal is to maximize profit, while hopefully doing so in an ethical manner. Microcredit is the idea that an organization can be for-profit and work with a core mandate to solve social problems in a business-like way. We at the Grameen Foundation are pursuing microcredit in 22 countries, and we've mobilized more than \$90 million dollars so far. Beyond microcredit, we have started joint-venture companies in Uganda and Rwanda that are setting up microcredit so women can borrow to have payphone businesses. This is a prime example of a for-profit company with social objectives. It allows the women to earn money and get out of poverty while providing needed services to their village in a business-like way. We will certainly be doing more with these efforts in the future. That's what I feel is exciting about this sector: It incorporates all the exciting principles of profit and non-profit.

SC: Do you have any advice for

undergraduates who are aspiring businessmen or those who want to try to make a difference?

AC: First, I would encourage people to read Dr. Yunus' Nobel Prize lecture that articulates the case of a social business enterprise and also his book, *Banker to the Poor*, which was catapulted to best-seller status after the announcement. Many people are attracted to business, but solving problems social problems is also attractive. To be a part of a movement that does not divide the two is very exciting. It's fun to be a decisive, hard-driving businessmen but also being able to help fight social problems. Second, I recommend you think deeply and creatively about what your calling is and then work to find mentors to help you realize that calling and further refine your goals. Because I had some great mentors to guide me, I was able to find my niche. I wouldn't have been able to do that on my own. Rather than doing two or three years in non-profit then going to business school, working in dynamic non-profits and social business enterprises became my career since college.

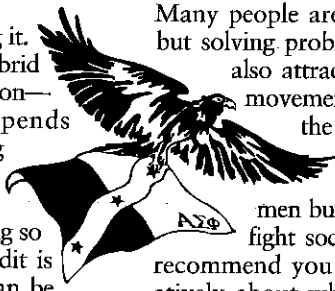
SC: How did being in Rockledge impact your life and career after college?

AC: You certainly learn a lot about being able to work with people of all types and backgrounds, which helped me in a cross-cultural environment like Bangladesh. The main thing was walking out of the house with a core of six friends that have had reunions annually for 18 years. I might not have a connection to

Cornell right now if it were not for the house.

SC: One final question. Anything else you would like to say to the readers of the Iota Sig?

AC: The real lesson for me about Rockledge was to take advantage of the potential to really get to know the brothers to find ones who you really resonate with, which might not always be the ones you initially think of as similar to you. Studying is important, chasing girls, I suppose, is important (it was for me), devotion to your job is important, but getting to know your brothers is possibly the most important thing you can do at Rockledge. Probably 40 percent of my close friends today are Rockledge guys. Also, I recommend you get to know those different from you. Your relationships with people from diverse backgrounds and perspectives can be as interesting as those similar to you. Take more advantage of the time you have to invest in these friendships—you won't regret it.



PROFILES IN ROCKLEDGE

I hope you enjoyed this edition of Profiles in Rockledge. All profiles, including this one, can be found in the .pdf versions of our newsletters available for download at www.rockledge.org.

We have another great interview lined up for the next issue. However, we are always looking for suggestions. So please contact us if you know a Rockledge alumnus we should talk to!

Alumni News

William A. Potts '41 writes, "I have no idea whether any classmates are still alive, but if anyone I know might read this, I'd sure like to get a reply. I'm still very active in multiple volunteer programs, but it takes a hell of a lot more to complete them than it did last time you heard from me." Keep in touch with Bill at 131 W. Lake Dr., Lexington, SC 29073. E-mail him at williampotts@earthlink.net.

"I retired from the nursery business around 2000," writes Frank J. Cutting '62. "Marti continues her private school work, although threatening to

quit any day. Five grandchildren all residing in Massachusetts are a joy. Although my hot rod interest waned during my working years, it is alive and well, and I recently restored the Roadster I had at Rockledge in 1960. My son-in-law, another motor head, and I are building and expect to run this year a Bonneville Race on the Salt Flats in Utah. Life is good. Be well." Write to Frank at 81 Ben Hale Rd., Gill, MA 01354.

"I returned to Cornell for Homecoming," writes Whinfield D. Melville '64. "My son, Jeff Melville

'09, a sophomore, is house manager and alumni relations rep. The dinner at the house on Saturday night was excellent. Sat next to Jan J. VanHeining '60. I hadn't seen him since graduation." Write to Whin at 33 Concord Dr., Pittsford, NY 14534. E-mail him at wdmelville@gmail.com.

Dennis E. Ditch '65 writes, "My wife, Ruth, and I founded Delta Square in 1990. We sell and install computer servers and storage to major companies like Fed Ex, ITT, and Kodak. We

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Alumni News

(continued from page seven)

also do turnkey systems for data analysis for customers like Lockheed and the Navy. Daughter, Barbara (hotel '93), and son, David, also work for us. We became grandparents for the first time in October. She lives in Freeport, New York, where our daughter, Lynn, is a law student. So we are spending a lot of time learning our way around Long Island. For 20 year, I spent a lot of time at Cornell selling computers. But the last 10 years have taken us in different directions. In 2007, we plan to push the education market, so I will get back to Rockledge more." Send Dennis greetings at 2938 County Rd. 40, Bloomfield, NY 14469. E-mail him at dennis@deltasquare.com.

"I'm planning on retiring from P&G this summer after nearly 33 years," writes Mark M. Anderson '68 (1534 Acreview Dr., Cincinnati, OH 45140; mbanderson1@jun0.com). "Hope to do some consulting and do some traveling with my wife, Betsy."

Charles William Lake III '69 reports that he has retired and moved to Oregon where both of his children live. Write to Bill at 4370 Wooded Acres Dr., Hood River, OR 97031. E-mail him at wndgr8@aol.com.

"My family and I moved to Malaysia two years ago and are really enjoying the experience," writes Stephen F. Sullivan '78. "I had an opportunity to manage an assembly/test factory in Penang that I couldn't refuse. Life is good, the food is great, and we've had the opportunity to do a lot of traveling all over South East Asia. If anyone is planning a trip to this part of the world, please drop me a line. I'll be glad to show you around." Keep in touch with Steve by e-mailing him at saintsully@gmail.com.

"So I finally tied the knot," writes Alejandro Badia '85. "I married Alexandra Galatia from Caracas, Venezuela, a physical therapist I met in 2000. We now have a daughter, Alesria, who is 3 months old." Send Alejandro congratulations at 1278 S. Venetian Way, Miami, FL 33139; alex@surgical.net.

Thomas J. VanTiem Jr. '89 writes, "I

finally got married September 16, 2006, in Charleston. Her name is Lynn Marlow. She is in software sales. We spent three fantastic weeks in Italy and Croatia for our honeymoon. I couldn't be happier. It took a long time to find her, but it was worth the wait. We are living in Charleston for now, but talk about moving up north or out west and may end up making a change in the next year or so." Send T.V.T. congratulations at 317 N. Shelmore Blvd., Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464; t_van_tiem@hotmail.com.

Luke "Ernie" Oh '93 writes, "Last September, Donna De Rosa and I got married in Long Island. Adrian 'Muttley' Muller '93 and Hooman 'Gonzo' Yaghoobzadeh '94 attended the wedding. I will be finishing my orthopedic surgery residency this June at Hospital for Special Surgery in Manhattan and will be moving to Boston to start the Harvard Sports Medicine Fellowship in August. Looking forward to touching base with Rockledge brothers in Beantown." For an update on the Oh family, write to Ernie at 310 E. 71st St., Apt. 6E, New York, NY 10021; lso1@cornell.edu.

Matthew "Scagnetti" Carmona '97 writes, "After completing law school at the University of Illinois in 2004, I moved back to my hometown of Detroit, Michigan, where I practice consumer law and employment law. I was recently engaged to my girlfriend, Kelly Burks, while on vacation in

Mexico. We are planning a wedding for spring 2008. I also joined the Corporation Board and enjoy being involved with the Rockledge again. I see Louis Breskman '98, Jordan Lisella '97, and Mike Shriberg '97 whenever we can fit it into our busy schedules, as they are all also currently living in the Detroit/Ann Arbor area."

Deceased

We regret to announce the deaths of the following alumni:

Russell Smith '40
August 30, 2006

Richard N. Livingston '54
April 3, 2006



Matthew Carmona '97 poses for a picture with his fiancée, Kelly.



Luke "Ernie" Oh '93 and his wife, Donna, at their wedding. (See related news item.)