

WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A BROTHER OF ZBT

Over the course of this semester, the brotherhood at Edgecliff has flourished with the addition of 18 new and dedicated brothers. Morale is at a high as a result of a productive rush and strong representation in the Cornell community.

Academically, Kappa ranks among the top three fraternities every semester in overall house GPA. Our social events have been outstanding as turnout and quality of events have been truly phenomenal.

Our relationship with other fraternities and sororities on campus has been fostered through the A.D. White Greek Leadership Conference held on Valentine's Day. The ideas cultivated and lessons learned from this leadership conference have already been implemented in all aspects of the house. Being a brother in

ZBT means being a leader in the Cornell community as many brothers partake in many clubs and other programs Cornell offers, such as the varsity golf team, symphonic band, Cornell Ambassadors, SHAG, Cornell Tradition Fellows, and orientation leaders.

The outlook for ZBT could not be better as the brotherhood is strengthened with each passing day. The proof of this are the many tight-knit relationships fostered by our fraternity, which we all hope will last long after our days at Edgecliff and Cornell are over. There is a compassion and genuine concern for each brother that makes our house great. This bond among brothers is the essence of the ZBT experience.

The future success of Kappa is secure, and further expansion is a primary goal for the chapter.



Over the course of the next semester we will continue to introduce new brotherhood activities, such as paintball and other outdoor sports and events that will help to bring our brotherhood even closer than it is now.

Being a brother in ZBT is synonymous with success, good times, strong relationships, giving back to the community, and above all else, the pride and honor of being in ZBT.

Lee Pepper '06
President

KAPPA BROTHERHOOD: A MODEL OF EXCELLENCE

For the good and welfare of Kappa: That's the way that we start our good and welfare during chapter meetings. Good and welfare is a time when all the brothers in the house are around for the chapter meeting, and everyone in turn talks about something that happened to him in the past week. It is a way for the brothers to take a break from work or the stress of tests and

have a few laughs with all business aside. With the addition of the newly initiated brothers of the Kappa Chapter, the brotherhood of the house has never felt so strong. The new class is a great addition to the house and ensures that the Kappa traditions will live on long after our time at Cornell is over.

Since rush week, when the brothers came together to meet

the men who have since become brothers themselves, we have come to understand better than ever what it means to have 70-plus people we can rely on and trust. We have put on many great brotherhood events and have hosted many visiting brothers from other chapters of Zeta Beta Tau. And as the seniors, who have led the way during their four years here with us, leave and continue down their paths, we can look back and thank them for all their contributions, for teaching the younger members about what the house means to them, and for allowing the house as a whole to witness brotherhood in its finest form. And as we started the article the way we begin our good and welfare, it will end with the way we finish: It's great to be in Kappa.

Jason Posner '05
Brotherhood Development
Director



Left:
The brothers dressed for a formal.

THE HISTORY OF ZETA BETA TAU FRATERNITY

From the website of the ZBT National Fraternity: <http://www.zbt.org>.

Zeta Beta Tau Fraternity was inspired by Richard J. H. Gottheil, a professor of languages at Columbia University and a leader in the early American Zionist movement. On December 29, 1898, Professor Gottheil gathered together a group of Jewish students from several New York City universities to form a Zionist youth society. The society was called ZBT.

During this brief period, the society came to serve as a kind of fraternal body for college students who, as Jews, were excluded from joining existing fraternities because of the sectarian practices which prevailed at the end of the nineteenth century in the United States.

The continuing need for a Greek-letter fraternity open to Jewish students prompted ZBT to change its *raison d'être*, structure and emphasis and to become Zeta Beta Tau in 1903.

Zeta Beta Tau expanded rapidly. By 1909, it had established 13 chapters throughout the Northeast and a 14th at Tulane University at New Orleans, thereby taking on a truly national dimension. In 1913, it established its first Canadian chapter at McGill University in Montreal. Five years later, it founded its first West Coast Chapter at the University of Southern California in Los Angeles. At the 1954 National Convention, the delegates amended Zeta Beta Tau's constitution, ritual, and internal procedures both in the-

ory and in practice to eliminate sectarianism as a qualification for membership.

Spearheaded by the growth of state and municipal university systems, hundreds of new institutions were opened in the quarter-century following World War II. By the 1960s virtually every American had an opportunity to attend college. From 1945 to 1969, the number of ZBT chapters increased from 30 to 80 units.

The history of mergers in the Zeta Beta Tau brotherhood followed a pattern of linking common traditions. In 1959, Phi Alpha merged into Phi Sigma Delta, and in 1961 Kappa Nu merged into Phi Epsilon Pi. In 1969-'70, Phi Sigma Delta and Phi Epsilon Pi merged into Zeta Beta Tau.

Traumatic experiences were generated by the polarization over the Vietnam conflict. The American fraternity system, including Zeta Beta Tau, was subsequently affected by the great wave of anti-establishment feeling that was pervasive throughout the country. Many of the chapters which survived this period of turmoil did so in a weakened condition. During the late 1970s and the early 1980s, there was a renewed interest in fraternity life, resulting in increased initiation statistics, revival of many dormant chapters, and expansion to new campuses.

During the 1980s, every Greek-letter group continued their efforts to stop hazing.

Despite ZBT's best efforts, hazing continued and increased in frequency and severity. ZBT concluded that all efforts to reform the institution of pledging had failed; pledging was the problem. This was because pledges were considered second-class citizens, with no rights and no chance to refuse even the most outrageous demands of a brother, unless he quit the fraternity. In 1989, in a last-ditch effort to eliminate hazing, ZBT eliminated pledging and all second-class status from the fraternity. In its place, ZBT established a brotherhood program, with minimum standards (brotherhood quality standards), as well as programs of education, bonding, and earning one's brotherhood status that applied to all brothers of ZBT.

Today, the merged Zeta Beta Tau brotherhood is some 110,000 brothers strong, and ZBT chapters and colonies are established at over 80 campus locations. Through good times and bad, ZBT has been in the forefront in pioneering new concepts—as evidenced by its very founding, its elimination of sectarian membership practices, its acceptance of mergers, its elimination of pledging, and its ability to solve enormous problems when others abandoned the effort.

ZBT continues to maintain a tradition of leadership and respect in the interfraternity world.

The **EDGECLIFF NEWS**

Published regularly by the Kappa Chapter of Zeta Beta Tau at Cornell University for its members and friends. News items and pictures are welcome at all times and should be sent to Zeta Beta Tau Fraternity at Cornell, Alumni Records Office, P.O. Box 876, Ithaca, NY 14851-0876.

HELP US FIND THESE "LOST" ALUMNI!

We have labeled the following brothers as "lost" because we no longer know how to reach them! If you can provide a postal or e-mail address for any of these alumni, please write to us at Zeta Beta Tau Fraternity at Cornell, Alumni Records Office, P.O. Box 876, Ithaca, NY 14851-0876. Thank you!

George Falk '32, Albert Phillips '34, Arnold Blackstone '36, Irwin Harris '37, James Kaplan '39, Richard Sloss '39, Richard Rothman '40, Reuben Garner '42, Alan Augenblick '46, Eugene Nagel '49, Jerome Winston '49, Tom Cornsweet '50, Alexander Bernitz '52, Harold Stone '53, Donald Zundell '53, S. B. Benioff '54, Thomas Nobil '54, Gerald Stone '54, Alfred Aronson '55, Stuart Braun '56, Joel Silverberg '57, Morton Metzler, Jr. '58, Burton Siegel '58, Howard Stein '58, Donald Katz '59, Frederic Sukoff '59, David Friedman '60, Boris Goldstein '60, David Griedman '60, Michael Abrams '62, James Greenberg '62, Eric Morrison '62, David Fisher '64, Lawrence Feinberg '65, Martin Ecker '66, Robert Hatcher '67, Paul Levine '67, Paul Bloom '69, Steven Kanner '69, Jeff Katz '69, Peter McCabe '69, Douglas McKenzie '69, Douglas Roberts '69, William Rubenstein '69, Ely Zimmerman '69, Reed Bye '70, Peter Cooperman '70, Eric Parks '70, James Smith '70, Richard Vanschuabel '70, Mark Cordover '71, Robert Fisher '71, Steven Treston '71, Richard Turner '71, Steve Crozier '73, Brian Shiffrin '74, Stanley Bray '75, William Kurland '77, Warren Weiner '78, Petur Hansson '80, Joseph Dimilia '84, Steven Lewengrub '89, Blaine Riggle '89, Marc Landau '90, Andrew Tumpowsky '90, Kevin Watson '93, Greg Cohen '94, Gregg Fisher '94, Lee Goldberg '94, Raymond Nelson '94, Richard Weirnerman '94, Matthew Allen '96, Adam Chase '96, Alex Gershenthorn '96, Julian Gomez '96, Todd Kashdan '96, Matt Middleman '96, Jason Cohen '97, Daniel Levinsohn '98, David Travin '98.

KAPPA CHAPTER KEEPS GETTING BETTER

Rush could not have gone much better than it did this year for Kappa. The newest semester has brought in a great new crop of brothers to Zeta Beta Tau. We have added 18 new members to our brotherhood. These kids are amazing people and will be good brothers. I am looking forward to spending the rest of my Cornell years with them.

Getting these new members into the house has revived the enthusiasm that others have for this house as well. Everyone is quite excited to get to know these spirited kids even better, and we have confidence that these 18 new members will make ZBT stronger and better.

Michael Ispass '06
Vice President

HOUSE IS IN GREAT SHAPE

After one semester, the house is in great shape. The house has been extremely clean and has required less maintenance than usual. This is a result of the brothers' genuine affection for the house. Live-ins love the place they call home and care about the condition of their living quarters.

There is a lot to look forward to this semester. The brothers have chosen to take on a project of redoing the chapter room. They plan to sand and repaint the walls and to replace the carpet. Other minor projects are in the

works, too. These will open the way for some capital improvements over the summer.

Next year, the house will be in the best condition anyone has ever seen for awhile, giving us something extra to look forward to at Edgecliff next year. We are very pleased with these continuing improvements, which should make the freshmen more excited than ever to be living in the house.

Sal Giglio '06
House Manager



The new brothers pose for a picture during Valentine's Date Night.



A·L·U·M·N·I·W·R·I·T·E

Some months ago, author and playwright PHILIP H. FREUND '29 was interviewed on the BBC in London (also broadcast in the U.S.) about a book he'd written 69 years ago. In 2003 he had two books published in England and the U.S., *Myths of Creation* (a new edition) and *Stage by Stage: The Birth of Theatre*. Two more volumes are to be issued this year. Philip's name, and that of his sister, Regene (Freund) Cohane (founder of the national sorority Sigma Delta Tau, which had its origin at Cornell), are inscribed on a marble slab installed on the Cornell campus. Philip lives at 1025 Fifth Ave., New York, NY 10028.

When we last heard from HUBERT M. ARONSON '44, he was hoping that many of his classmates would make it back for their 60th reunion in June. To find out how it went, drop him a line at 12 Brookview Dr., Pleasantville, NY 10570.

Retiree SEWELL J. SHUGER '46 makes his home at 8002 Brynmor Court, Unit 301, Pikesville, MD 21208.

"Eleanor, my wife of 47 years, passed away on November 10," writes ISRAEL S. HURWITZ '52. "Fortunately, I have great support from family and friends. It's still a lonely life, even though I keep busy. I'm in my office one or two days a week practicing office orthopedics. I'm also doing some volunteer work. I'd love to hear from any of the brothers from 1949 to 1959 who remember me—the one who fed them those great meals at Edgecliff for \$1.55 daily." Our address for "Bud" is 205 Nobscot Rd., Sudbury, MA 01776; dochbud@massmed.org.

Stay in touch with EDWARD A. PERELES '61 at 640 Pine St., Suite 100, Philadelphia, PA 19106.

JULES B. KROLL '63 resides at 18 Parsonage Point, Rye, NY 10580.

HOWARD SCHLEZINGER '64 is general manager at Unico Alloys and Metals in Columbus, Ohio, where he lives at 1640 Coppertree Rd. (43232). Send e-mail to Howard at hschlesh@aol.com.

A professor of radiology, MICHAEL E. SIEGEL '64 can be reached at mesiegel@hsc.usc.edu or at P.O. Box 3913, Rancho Santa Fe, CA 92067.

JEFFREY S. KONVITZ '66 lives at 12660 Mulholland Dr., Beverly Hills, CA 90210. Send e-mail to Jeffrey at jkonvitz@aol.com.

GREGORY R. GORDON '80 is pleased to report that his son, Steven, will be a freshman at Cornell this fall. "Now I really feel mature!" Greg would love to hear from brothers of his era at grthumb@aol.com or at 22 Bridle Path, Holland, PA 18966.

CRAIG F. SCHREIBER '81 works in IBM's corporate headquarters, and his wife, Mary, is the head of the music department at Rye Country Day School. They make their home at 15 Burbank Ave., Bedford Hills, NY 10507.

Please note this new address for SANKET A. AKERKAR '94: 222 E. 34th St., #821, New York, NY 10016.

"We just had our third child, Emma, in July 2003," writes ERIC C. RESNICK '94 (30 Clancy Lane, Rancho Mirage, CA 92270; eresnick@kslmail.com). "Our oldest son, Michael, is four; daughter Allie is two. We are enjoying living and working in the Palm Springs area of Southern California. Please contact us if you are ever in the area."

JOSHUA A. BRETSTEIN '95 is director of the legal division of First Choice Staffing in New York City. Write to him at 345 E. 80th St., Apt. 4H, New York, NY 10021, or at jbretstein@firstchoiceny.com.

Stay in touch with MATT FLORIN '98 at backeastTV@aol.com or at 121 Fleet St., #B, Marina Del Rey, CA 90292.

DECEASED

We regret to report the death of the following alumni:

MERRILL D. GROSS '34
March 4, 2003

JARED H. JOSSEM '64
April 21, 2003

ROBERT C. SCHALLMAN '46
May 29, 2004

JACK B. TAMARKIN '53
December 2003