



**Alumni of Alpha Chapter
Theta Xi Fraternity
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute**

Fall 2010 E-Newsletter

October 18, 2010

Dear Brother,

We are pleased to provide you with the Fall 2010 E-Newsletter.
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Alpha Welcomes 12 New Associate Members



A successful Fall rush at Alpha welcomed 12 freshmen as Associate Members to our membership roll.

The seated associated members' names and information (from left to right in the photo) are the following:

Will Smythe	Mechanical Engineering	Creeley, Colorado
Roland Vanzandt	Biomedical Engineering	Clifton Park, New York
John Tiedtke	Undeclared Engineering	Hanover, Massachusetts
Chris Regan	Architecture	Stonington, Connecticut
Jamal McPherson	Aerospace Engineering	Watervliet, New York
Ryan Cassidy	Aerospace Engineering	Queensbury, New York
Yao Dong	Biomedical Engineering	Clearwater, Florida
Gordon Devine	Math	Pottsville, Pennsylvania
Gavin Greenewalt	Information Technology	Shoreham, Vermont
Josh Welton	Electrical Engineering	New Boston, New Hampshire
Jon Burke	Civil Engineering	Salem, Connecticut
Alex Fredette	Nuclear Engineering	Windsor, Connecticut

Visit our [Alpha News](#) section on our website to read more news about Alpha and our members.

Work Week 2010

More than 10 alumni joined 40+ active members to perform significant maintenance on our chapter house at 1490 Sage Avenue. A 65 foot boom lift was rented for a week allowing the actives to paint all external painted surfaces (dormers and concrete) and repaired and cleaned out the gutters. The 2nd and 3rd floor bathrooms were given a facelift (paint, new mirrors, new light and vent fixtures). The actives rebuilt a professional-grade walk-in refrigerator. Significant other renovations were completed in many other public areas and many individual bedrooms. Details and photos of the project can be found on our website at www.alpha6294.com/renovations.php.



Chapter Awards

Alpha Chapter again performed very well in the annual Theta Xi National Awards. The chapter once again won a Benchmark Chapter Award (top 20% of all chapter operations nationally, one of only 2 chapters to earn 9 of 9 points Accreditation score each of the past 2 years). Our newsletter, the AlphaBet was named best newsletter among all chapters. The active's successful 2008-9 rush year was recognized for outstanding recruitment. And **Chris (Norm) Baldauf (A1487, RPI '03)** was awarded the Dr. W. Turrentine Jackson Award recognizing the Fraternity's Outstanding Chapter Advisor for 2009-2010.

Homecoming

Approximately 25 alumni and spouses returned to Alpha chapter for RPI's 2010 Homecoming and Reunion weekend. The active brothers hosted a wine and cheese reception on Friday October 15th at the chapter house and a BBQ on Saturday October 16th between the RPI Football and Hockey games. It was great to welcome so many brothers back to our house to see the progress made by the active brothers over the past few years.



Alumni Association prepares Capital Campaign

Your Alpha Alumni Association is in the initial phases of launching a major 4 year fund raising initiative to allow us to perform needed renovations on our chapter house in preparation for our 150th Anniversary and Convention in 2014. Details will follow regarding renovations plans and how you can help.

Grand Lodge Meets in Troy

In August the Grand Lodge held its annual summer meeting to discuss national fraternity business. This year's meeting was held in Troy NY at the new Hilton Garden hotel on Hoosick Street (a leading candidate to host the 150th convention). The Grand Lodge toured the house and campus and discussed planning for the 2014 convention.



The Grand Lodge visits the newly renovated Memorial Bench area during their August trip to campus.

150th Anniversary Update

The 150th Anniversary Committee of the Grand Lodge chaired by A1275 David Fowkes is in negotiations with RPI to locate a suitable location to construct an on-campus memorial recognizing our founding at RPI in 1864. Discussions are focused on locating the memorial within RPI's current '86 Field construction project. Other locations are being considered including potential recognition at our chapter house at 1490 Sage Avenue. The Grand Lodge hopes to present one or more options to the 147th Anniversary convention in St Louis next summer and secure approval from the membership for a specific project.

Annual Fund Update

Our 2009-10 Annual Fund campaign finished off better than last year (25% higher than 2008-09) but still 25% below our 2006-07 and 2007-08 campaigns. Thank you to all of you alumni who have continued to support the maintenance work on our chapter house and our continued communications efforts.

Theta Xi City Clubs

Albany, NY Club - Brad Spencer A1517. Email Brad at bspencer1517@gmail.com about upcoming events.

Boston Club - Chris Blanc A1404 – For more information please contact Chris at cblanc@gmail.com.

Chicago Club - Weston Harding Gamma Tau 1 – Contact Weston at weston.harding@resavvy.com. com if interested in future events.

NYC Club - Please send an e-mail to David Fowkes A1275 at david@rfowkes.com for more info.

Washington DC - Dan Daly Beta Omega 187 – The Washington DC Alumni Club has a happy hour the first Friday of every month. For more information, please contact Daniel Daly, DC Alumni Club President at dand187@gmail.com. John Reinhardt A1358 has also recently gotten together Alphas in the DC area. Contact John at john@teamreinhardt.com for more details.

Upcoming Calendar of Events

President's Academy and Rising Stars Academy - Jan 14-17, 2011, St Louis, MO

District Leadership Academy - February 19, 2011, Gamma Chapter Hoboken, NJ

6294 Celebration - April 29-May 1, 2011, Troy NY

147th Anniversary Convention - Aug 4-7 2011, St. Louis, MO

150th Anniversary - April 29, 2014

150th Anniversary Convention - July-Aug 2014 Troy, NY

Get Connected through Online Networks

Connect with Brothers through online social and professional networks.

LinkedIn.com: <http://www.linkedin.com/e/gis/95974/613485187C67> (64 Brothers)

FaceBook.com: Over 157 brothers now connected through FaceBook. Search for 'ThetaXi TroyAlumni'.

Call for Photos/Yearbooks

WANTED: Alpha Chapter composites for pre-1958,1962,1963,1964,1969 to 1978, miscellaneous pictures or any yearbook that you would like to donate to the chapter's collection. If you have one of these, please contact Matt Glaccum at mglaccum@geosphereinc.com

Volunteers Needed

Want to help out but not sure how? Contact David Fowkes (david@rfowkes.com), Matt Glaccum (mglaccum@geosphereinc.com) or Chris Baldauf (chris.baldauf@gmail.com) to find out what you can do to help the chapter organizations continue to grow. Whether it is acting as a mentor to the Actives, working on the website or joining in organizing alumni events, please consider helping to strengthen the chapter network connection.

Alpha Alumni Website

Have you visited our new alumni website? Have you updated your contact information so we can continue to send you your AlphaBet and electronic newsletters? Please visit our website at www.alpha6294.com or [update your contact information](#) if it is incorrect or missing as listed below.

Find Alpha Alumni

Looking for Alpha Alum? Our website provider, alumni owned and operated Destined Studios (**John Viggiano A1488 and Ben Haynes A1526**) have added a new feature to our website. Please sign in/register at www.alpha6294.com and look for the Google Maps logo and search field. Type in any address and a Google map will provide you with a listing of all Alpha alumni living near that address. Thinking of moving or going on a trip? Check out alumni who you may want to call to grab a beer.

Send Us An Update - News Wanted for the Alphabet's Alumni News Section

Have news about your family or work that you want to share with your fellow Brothers? You can send text and pictures to alumni-update@alpha6294.com or use the form box below. Updates will be included in the Alphabet's Alumni News Section and will be posted where Brothers signing in to the alumni website can see what you have been up to.