



# Cal Delta Spotlight

USC House Corporation of Phi Delta Theta | Summer 2011 | University of Southern California

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## USC Phi Delta Theta House Corporation

By: Stephen Scully '81



I am extremely pleased to report that our House continues to grow and is an important contributor to student life at USC. As of this coming Fall, we have 72 returning active members with a strong commitment towards adding a minimum of 20 new pledges. Our House continues to be the talk of 28th street as the nicest Fraternity on the row. As important, we are pleased with the commitment from the active chapter and are at capacity this Fall, with 39 members living in.

I would like to express again my personal appreciation for all of you who contributed your time and money bringing our House back to USC. It is incredible to reflect back to the burned out shell with a core group of young Phis committed to their spot at 1005 West 28th Street. When you visit the house today, it is alive with young men who are enjoying one of the best Universities in the United States and have an incredible future ahead of them. The effort that was undertaken by the House Corporation a couple years ago has met and exceeded our wildest expectations. We should all be proud of this accomplishment and look forward to continue this legacy.

As I have written in past letters, the fund raising and support need that is required from our Alumni is greater today than ever in the past. I say this as it is crystal clear now what we have. USC Phi Delta Theta has set a new standard of the type of House on the row at USC. Our structure is a Los Angeles Landmark that mirrors the original architecture but is fully up to date with the latest fire and safety equipment, high speed internet, commercial kitchen, air conditioning and the best address on 28th Street. Our commitment to the House must be un-waivered. That being to insure that our House Corporation owns this facility and property debt free and that USC Phi Delta Theta continues for the infinite future.

In the next few weeks you will be receiving a letter from the Laurus Group to understand the capability of our Alumni to continue down the path towards fully funding this significant project. I personally ask that you take the time and reflect on your experiences at the House and why we have made this project so important. I ask that you make USC Phi Delta Theta one of your long term philanthropic priorities and join the 150 Phis that have already stepped financially up to make this effort the reality it is today.

*As always, Fight On and Proud to be a Phi.*

## Alumni Member Spotlight Q&A with Fletcher (Ted) Jones Jr.



**Q: What decision led you to make USC your college selection?**

**A:** I played football in high school, and the air force academy contacted me to play football for them. When I told my father, he insisted that I go to USC. This was during the middle of the Vietnam War, which was a factor, and my father thought USC would be a better fit. He had a good experience there, and said it would be good for networking and for the basis of my education.

**Q: What was Cal Delta like when you pledged?**

**A:** It was a bunch of very good guys – I didn't know anyone. It was one of the top 3-4 houses on campus. It was friendly and more laid back than others. I made a friend that played football at another local high school. We became good friends but have since drifted apart due to our schedules.

**Q: Did you live in the house? If so, what was it like?**

**A:** Yes, I lived in the house for about a year. It wasn't too crazy – very organized, study times, and dinner every night. It was a nice



place to have as a home base and work out of. I hear the new house is fantastic! The renderings that I have seen look great.

**Q: Did you plan on working in the auto industry at this point in school?**

**A:** Yes. My father was in the car business, and I was a car nut. I had been working at the dealerships in the shop since I was 12. By the time I left school, I worked in all the different departments. I felt very comfortable with the transition – I had been around the sales department for so long, I had a really good idea of what to expect.

**Q: What advice can you give our active chapter members that may be faced with a similar situation?**

**A:** My situation was so unique, the only advice I feel that I could offer is that if you have a family business that you love, I would encourage working at it. If it's something that you don't want to do, it can be a disaster. Make sure you enjoy what you're doing.

*Jones, continued on page 4*

## President's Message

**B**rothers, The brothers of California Delta have just finished up the 2010-2011 academic year at USC. We recently said our goodbyes to the Class of 2011 and the 28 seniors that graduated and are moving on to their new careers. Receiving the award for "Most Outstanding Recruitment" from the University at the Greek Awards was a great accomplishment. In spite of such a large graduating class, our recruitment efforts rewarded us with a 21-man pledge class in the fall and a 19-man pledge class in the spring. These outstanding numbers mean that the chapter has exceeded 100 members for the first time since our refounding.

We saw our campus involvement increase once again with brothers representing several on-campus organizations including IFC (the Inter-Fraternal Council), USC Tour Guides, The Latino Business Student Association, KXSC Radio, Campus Crusade, Trojan Men (USC only all-male Acapella group), Marshall Student Ambassadors, Roller Hockey, Cross Country & Track, and one member on the USC Trojans Football team. In the Fall we raised over \$4,000 for the Southern California ALS Association in our annual philanthropy soccer tournament, Phi Delt Fifa. This philanthropy is always an anticipated event among sororities and the Chapter's brothers and we look forward to hosting an equally successful tournament in the fall.

In closing, the brothers of Cal Delt continue to be blazing a path to success. Yet we continue to be mindful and grateful to those who came before us and helped shape out chapter into what it is today.

Yours in the Bond,  
**Naader Banki**

Naader Banki '12 (President), Pablo Ortiz '14 (Risk Management Chairman) - Big Bro & Lil Bro right after initiation



L to R: Chris Lapple (GHQ Treasurer), Andrew Christopher '13 (Alumni Relations Chairman), Naader Banki '12 (President), Stan Gilson (Province President) - Founder's Day Dinner at the chapter house.



The Brothers & their dates at the annual Spring Formal in Las Vegas, Nevada 2011.

## Scholarship Message

**T**he Annual Scholarship Dinner held in April at which USC's Arts and Letters Professor Thomas Gustafson spoke to the brothers. More than twenty brothers received awards for having a GPA above a 3.5 for the fall 2010 semester.

The Executive Council Officers wrote extensively about the activities and responsibilities of each of their respective positions to submit to this report. Following this exhaustive effort, Cal Delt submitted an awards package that was more than 125 pages long to General Headquarters, applying for 22 awards in total. This represents the most thorough and detailed awards packet that the chapter has ever submitted.

Also, through the House Judicial process (led by Judicial Chairman Jason Kerns) scholarship plans for those members with GPA's falling below the House requirement. Overall, it has been a great year for California Delta in our scholastic achievements.

Yours in the Bond,  
**Brenton Caldwell**

## Beat the Sigs, Beat the SAE's: Chapter Appeals to Alumni on Construction of Beach Volleyball Court

**A**lready sporting the nicest house on the row by far, the active chapter plans to further differentiate itself from the competition by constructing a regulation sand volleyball court in the northwest corner of the property.

Chapter President **Naader Banki** observes, "The court is instrumental in recruitment and sorority relations. Most sorority girls would certainly enjoy coming over to play some volleyball. Beyond that, the recruitment benefits are immeasurable. Only three houses now have volleyball courts (SAE, Sigma Chi and Sigma Nu), and erecting the court would set us apart from the other 17 houses."

A court that lasts over time requires special bleach-washed sand to a depth of two feet, which is the most expensive single part of the court's \$15,000 cost. The chapter has raised \$6000 from the parents of actives and is appealing to alumni for help with the rest.

If it rubs you the wrong way to see the SAE's and Sigs with a leg up on the Phi Delt, now is a great time to step up. Checks should be made out to USC Phi Delt House Corporation with "Volleyball Court" written on the memo line and mailed to Steve Scully, (address to be inserted.) Donations of \$1000 or more are tax deductible and will be followed with a charitable donation receipt by return mail. All donors will receive permanent recognition with names etched around the outer rim of the court.



## Alumni Message

Brothers,

Carrying off of two successful alumni events in the fall which included an evening with City Attorney Carmen Trutanich and our annual homecoming alumni tailgate, we saw continued success with engaging alumni in the activities of the Chapter this semester. Many alumni were present at our Blue Chip Dinner held at Annandale Golf Club this January. In particular, alumni **Rob Ellis**, **Jeff Pierson** recounted stories and provided insight into what the chapter meant to them, to show the new Phikeia the power value of being a part of this House.

In March, we had the opportunity to welcome dozens of alumni back to the chapter house to celebrate Founder's Day. This event was held at the Cal Delt house in conjunction with the UCLA colony. Former General Council member Stan Gilson and current General Council Treasurer Chris Lappel were in attendance and helped us mark this momentous occasion.

Overall, we continue to be indebted to our gracious alumni and owe them many thanks for the dedication that they have showed to the Chapter. For that I say "Thank You".

Yours in the Bond,  
**Andrew Christopher**



Clockwise: Wayne Kurlak '58, Bill Bedford '57, Province Stan Gilson, National Treasurer Chris Lapple, Frank Hough '73, Richard Kirtland '56, Joe Edwards

## LEAVE A LEGACY!

Consider a lasting gift that will support Phi Delta Theta long after you are gone. By including the USC Phi Delt House Corporation in your estate plans, you ensure the long-term health and success of our fraternity.

For more information on how you can make a contribution to USC Phi Delt House Corp., contact **Stephen Scully '81** at [sscully@teamsully.com](mailto:sscully@teamsully.com). Or, if you have already included the House in your estate plans, please let us know by contacting Steve.

\*\*\*This information is not presented as legal or tax advice. Always consult your advisors for questions you may have.\*\*\*

# Alumni News

## Alumni Reunite at Angel Stadium



“What a GREAT time!”

The Phi Delt alumni network delivered a great day on June 4th for 35 Reagan-era actives who gathered in Anaheim for an Angels-Yankees game.

How fired up were the brothers for this event? Ask **Brad Radichel '84**, who flew in from Minnesota to be there. Or **Mark Jozwiak**, who caught a plane from Chicago. Two alums, **Scott McAlister** and **Kim Whitney**, came down from Northern California as well. And the pre-game and post-game at a nearby watering hole each exceeded the length of the actual baseball game.

**Andy Fong '82** organized the junket, starting with an email to his Phi Delt contact list that spread as other brothers forwarded it to theirs. Darryl Webb, recalling Fong's frequent trips to Tom Bergin's as a student, summed up the group's gratitude: "Great time! Many thanks to our great leader Andy 'Yo Doll' O'Fongahan for organizing the event." Fong replied, "What a GREAT time!!! It was great seeing everyone! But you don't need to thank me. I'm glad you all responded in such a positive way." Over the next few days the post-game email traffic showed a consensus for making the outing an annual event.



## Chapter Grand



Brother **Jefferson H. Wilkes '80** passed away on Sunday, December 26th. Jeff was a dedicated employee at the Thornhill Winery for many years. In 2001 he left his formal role at the company, but didn't go far. He became an AP at the CCWS making wine under the label "J. Wilkes". Within his own company he remained a quality example of Central Coast wines and an articulate proponent of the fruit from their vineyards.

Outside of work he was an avid sailor. Additionally he was a fan of USC, and more recently the Naval Academy, from which his son Chris graduated. Jeff will be greatly missed.





Jones, continued from page 1

**Q: Have you been able to maintain any friendships from your time with Cal Delta?**

**A:** I have – several of them. Some I talk to once a week, others month to month and so on. I keep in touch with these guys for the college

experience, football; we talk about many things in life or just reminisce.

**Q: What is your fondest memory(s) of being a part of the chapter?**

**A:** Probably the football games, and the pledge class. We went through a lot together at such a young age. There were tragic times, but it was a good bonding experience for the guys that were there.

**Q: Describe a typical day in the life of Fletcher Jones Jr.**

**A:** Right now, it has changed a lot. I am semi-to-fully retired. We have a new President for the company that we hired 3 years ago to help out, and my Son is the Chief Operating Officer, based out of Las Vegas. I have younger children still, so a good part of my day is picking them up from school and spending time with them. I am on my way to London for a vacation with my family. The kids are looking forward to seeing the castles, and Buckingham Palace. My Wife and I have tickets for the men and women’s final at Wimbledon.

**Q: What message would you like to convey to your fellow Alumni about pursuing success and happiness?**

**A:** The key to everything is having fun and enjoying what you do. This is really important. I have certainly been blessed with my opportunities, but I cannot imagine working in a field that made me miserable every day.

**Q: How do you plan to give back to Cal Delta in the future? (You would make a great mentor!)**

**A:** I would like to go by the new house and visit, and get out to the game Homecoming weekend. I am available to talk to those who may have questions about business.

# Alum Admits Special Preference Got Him into Phi Delt House

By Bruce Buettell '82

Entering USC as an only child from a sleepy town like La Mirada, my social skills were equivalent to the academic skills of a junior-college football player. It wasn't hard to predict that I would hit rock bottom years later when I asked a woman for a date, and she said she couldn't make it because she had to go to her singles club.

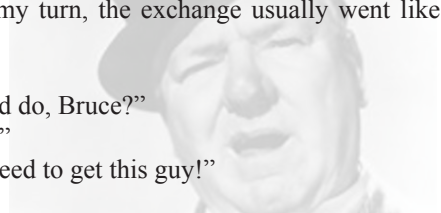
## So how did I get into a great House like Phi Delta Theta?

Well, thirty years of guilt is long enough. It's time I admitted I had a special advantage thanks to my Dad's career. While rushing fraternities in the Fall of 1978, I noticed that most of them would get around to asking rushees what their families did for a living. Since this was USC, there were a lot of great answers from guys whose fathers were CEO of Wells Fargo or President of Universal Studios. When it was my turn, the exchange usually went like this:

“And what does your dad do, Bruce?”  
“He owns a liquor store.”  
“Hey, impressive! We need to get this guy!”

I could have had the only fire extinguisher at a Koran burning in Mecca and still had less clout than that liquor store gave me with the fraternities. As rush went on, I felt sorry for kids whose parents were measly billionaire CEO's. To put the liquor store to the test, I started showing up at rush parties with polyester slacks, a white belt and a fresh outbreak of acne. No problem: the bids kept rolling in.

Today as I consider how to atone for my unfair advantage, I would first urge the Greek system to give a fair chance to all candidates—even if they come from non-liquor-store-owning families. It may be hard to imagine, but there are other ways that a guy can contribute to a house. I'm also thinking about endowing a scholarship fund for disadvantaged students whose families are not engaged in booze retailing. I should emphasize, however, that I'm only thinking about it at this point since I may prefer to spend the money on myself.



**2011 USC TROJANS HOME SCHEDULE**

- 9/3 - Minnesota 
- 9/10 - Utah 
- 9/17 - Syracuse 
- 10/1 - Arizona 
- 10/29 - Stanford 
- 11/12 - Washington 
- 11/26 - UCLA 






## Save the Date!

The Cal Delta Homecoming Booth will be set up on campus Saturday, November 12, 2011  
USC vs Washington @ 12:30 PM

For more info, contact Andrew at [aschrist@usc.edu](mailto:aschrist@usc.edu)