

DOC DAVIS MEMORIAL NEWSLETTER

PENN STATE DELTA UPSILON
SPRING 2025



DU undergraduates and alumni gather for a celebratory photo following the initiation ceremony.

Toward the end of the spring semester, alumni gathered to support the undergraduates by helping to conduct a memorable initiation ceremony to officially welcome the newest class of undergraduate brothers. Held at our storied Chapter House, the event celebrated not only the values of Delta Upsilon but also the powerful connection between alumni and undergraduate members.

The ceremony was enriched by the presence and participation of several alumni who made the journey back to Happy Valley to share in the occasion. **Jason Pitts '92** remarked on the strength of the undergraduate Chapter and the excitement surrounding the event:

"I was truly pleased to see the enthusiasm and energy our undergraduate members brought to the initiation process. It was a powerful reminder of the passion and commitment that define our fraternity."

Delta Upsilon's commitment to an open and non-secret initiation was a point of pride for all in attendance. **Gerrit Van Burk '91**, who also participated in the event, noted:

"I enjoyed meeting this great group of brothers and welcoming them into our fraternity. The continuing tradition of an open and non-secret initiation is something that sets Delta Upsilon apart and is worthy of celebrating."

A highlight of the event came when **Alan Piciaccio '89** delivered the traditional charge to the new members. His remarks challenged the young men to take pride in their DU identity and to build a legacy of involvement, leadership, and character as opposed to time in a dorm room, such as Shunk Hall:

"In 20 years, do you want to drive through town with your family and say, 'Look kids—that's where I lived. I'm a Shunker!' Or do you want to proudly drive up to our beautiful home on Locust Lane and say, 'I'm a DU!'"



Alan Piciaccio '89 delivers the charge to new brothers.

The initiation ceremony was not just a formal occasion—it was a moment of reconnection, reflection, and inspiration for all who attended. The event reaffirmed the timeless values of Delta Upsilon and showcased the enduring spirit of brotherhood that links generations of Penn State DUs.

Fraternally,
Ryan Mullin '11
President, Delta Upsilon Alumni Chapter

Alumni Board of Directors

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Brenden Finn '12
Eric Van Emburgh '14
Danny Matulula '19

Celebrating a Year of Growth, Leadership, and Philanthropy

THE LATEST FROM PENN STATE DU

As the academic year ends, our Chapter reflects on another year of remarkable achievements and continued progress in the areas of brotherhood, service, leadership, and involvement. Our Chapter continues to embody the core values of Delta Upsilon, with a strong commitment to making a positive impact on the Penn State community and beyond.

Campus Engagement

One of the defining moments of our year was our involvement in THON, Penn State's 46-hour dance marathon aimed at raising awareness and funding for the fight against childhood cancer. As always, this was a deeply meaningful event for our Chapter, and we are proud to report that our partnership with Delta Gamma placed us among the top five fundraising organizations.

Together, we raised an incredible \$388,000, a figure that speaks volumes about the dedication

and effort of our brothers and partners. Having increased our fundraising total for the second year in a row, we are optimistic about setting even higher goals for THON 2026.

Undergraduate Leadership

In addition to philanthropic success, our members continued to shine in leadership roles across campus. Rising senior and former Chapter President **Austin Parisi '23** was elected president of the Penn State Interfraternity Council, a significant honor and testament to his commitment to the Greek community. Another brother, **Brandon Bayer '26**, will lead the PSU Asset Management Group as its newly elected president. I was also recognized for my personal contributions, receiving the Interfraternity Council's "Outstanding New Member" award.

Competition and Growth

Athletically, our Chapter continued to compete

with pride and energy, securing championships in both intramural volleyball and flag football. These victories reflect not just talent, but also the strong camaraderie and teamwork that defines our brotherhood.

We also welcomed 29 new members into our Chapter this year. Even in their short time with us, these new brothers have demonstrated a genuine interest in leadership opportunities and have brought fresh ideas and enthusiasm to our Chapter's direction.

As we look to the year ahead, we remain committed to growth, excellence, and living out the values that make Delta Upsilon such a strong and united brotherhood.

Fraternally,
Trevor Katz '27
President



DU brothers celebrate their intramural flag football championship.

Chapter Goals

- 1 **Expand our philanthropic impact through new events.**
- 2 **Achieve full compliance with IHQ Men of Merit standards.**
- 3 **Increase Chapter-wide service participation.**



Brothers attend the Delta Upsilon Regional Leadership Academy in Philadelphia. From left: Trevor Katz '27, Nick Larche '27, Brendan Lynch '27, and Kyle Ridpath '27.



DU partners with Delta Gamma for THON and finishes in the top five fundraising organizations with more than \$388,000 raised to help prevent childhood cancer.

Chapter Officers

Chapter President
Trevor Katz '27

Vice President
Nick Larche '27

VP of Risk Management
Kunal Chinai '27

VP of Recruitment
Chris Kay '27
christophermkay9@gmail.com
(973) 769-1578

VP of Member Education
Cole Malatesta '27

VP of Finance
Jatin Patel '27

VP of Academic Excellence
Luke Denicolo '27

Social Chairman
Brian Niemczak '27

VP of Administration/
Recruitment Assistant
Brendan Lynch '27
brendanlynch269@gmail.com

VP of External Relations
Kyle Ridpath '27

Embracing a True Brotherhood

Ned Eldridge '79 on DU Bonds, Career Success

Nothing comes easy," **Ned Eldridge '79** said, thinking about his college experience and commitment to the Delta Upsilon brotherhood. He took immense pride in becoming a DU at Penn State, and Ned continues to value the skills and connections he made during his formative college years.

UNDERGRADUATE DEVELOPMENT

Ned joined Delta Upsilon during junior year after networking with some brothers he knew from Penn State Behrend. While it's hard to pick just one favorite memory, he enjoyed the group atmosphere and always being there for his brothers. "If you messed with one of us, you messed with all of us. We looked out for each other."

Ned's half year as social chairman filled an important role for the fraternity. He was responsible for several aspects of organizing DU social events, and Ned credits that position for helping him prepare for professional ventures beyond college.

"Don't be afraid to learn everything you can while you are still in school," he said. Ned's rounded experience at Penn State provided various opportunities for personal development alongside DU involvement. "I took more than 20 gym classes in 12 terms just for the fun of it. That was how I earned a minor in PE."

CAREER VENTURES

After graduation, Ned worked as a teacher and counselor at a juvenile institution before earning his MBA. He then spent nearly five years as a banker with Mellon Bank. In 1989, he began his first entrepreneurial venture working with a friend in the automatic transmission parts business before they sold their company, Recon, in 1998 to a private equity firm where Ned transitioned from the CFO into a role as VP of manufacturing.

"In June 2007, I was retired for about seven months before I started eLoop," he added. eLoop evaluates equipment for companies during their IT refresh cycles, either refurbishing and reselling usable IT equipment or recycling older technology. "We service more than 500 companies in the region and sell more than 3,000 IT assets per month."

PERSONAL LIFE

"DU was a great experience for me. I made lifelong friends and hope others get to live that dream themselves!"

Decades beyond college, Ned is grateful to remain connected with some DU alumni brothers like **Bill Gray '78, Tom Trasser '81, Andrew Barnes '83, and Chet Zuchelli '84.** "During football season, I see many others at the games. As we get older and have more time on our hands, we seem to be getting the brothers back together again. It's wonderful!"

Ned married his college sweetheart, Nancy, in 1981. They have three children, who are all Penn State graduates, along with four grandchildren. In his spare time, Ned enjoys staying active, traveling with family, and gathering with family for birthdays or holidays. You can connect with him at neldridge@growthcatalyst.com.

Alumni News

James Kennedy Jr. '62 appreciates Delta Upsilon's role in guiding him to leadership positions and meeting his wife, Kathleen. They are both retired on a 190-acre ranch in Cedar City, Utah, with a half-mile border on Bryce Canyon National Park.

Email: kathyandjim.kennedy@gmail.com

John Eisenhard '69 is fully retired, living part of the year in Vail, Colo., and part in Easton, Pa. He enjoys traveling, visiting with grandchildren, and keeping up with **Scott Glaus '69, Philip Mortensen '69, and Rich Walters '69.**

Email: jersenhards1129@gmail.com

Philip Mortensen '69 is still working part time in his NYC office at age 78, though he mostly works from home in Branford, Conn. He and Yue Feng enjoyed two cruises in 2024. Email: pmortensen@bartonesq.com

Kurt Krieger '83 lives in York, Pa., and he has been in the fitness business for more than 35 years. Email: kurtgolds@aol.com

Sean Kern '90 retired from the U.S. Air Force in September 2024 and now works as a director at SAIC. Sean lives in Williamsburg, Va. Email: sean.c.kern@gmail.com

Tony Gilbert '95 is an agricultural diplomat currently posted in Lima, Peru, until summer 2027. Email: ajgilbert@yahoo.com

Todd Wolk '02 and his long-term partner, Joseph, are getting married in August 2025. Todd resides in Stamford, Conn. Email: toddwolk@gmail.com

Brenden Finn '12 and his wife, Danielle, welcomed their son, Tommy, in October 2023. Brenden lives in Beaver, Pa. Email: btf5029@gmail.com

David Wagner '14 and his wife, Rebecca, live with their two young sons in Toronto, Canada. Email: wagnerdave@gmail.com



DU Initiation Update Inside!

We were proud to welcome many DU alumni back to Penn State at the end of the spring semester for another excellent initiation ceremony. The gathering featured alumni guest speakers who helped us welcome a new member class into our brotherhood, extending DU's rich history on campus.

**Check page 1 for
the event recap!**

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THANK YOU, Loyal Alumni

We appreciate the donors listed below who have generously contributed to Penn State DU in 2024-25. Your contributions to the *Penn State Annual Giving* campaign help us provide a bright future for our brotherhood on campus.

You can join the list or extend your generosity by scanning the QR code to visit supportdu.causevox.com. You can also establish a recurring donation to further your impact on Penn State DU. Alumni gifts funds undergraduate programming and alumni communications so we can maintain a strong fraternity.



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Vincent James Tedesco Jr. '64
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Tim Finn '75
Andrew Barnes '83
Mark Callihan '87

Charles Gilman '00
Marc Jankowski '11
William Woska '12

Bill Landherr Level (\$100 to \$228)

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Basil Pinzone '11
Justin Robinson '11
Joshua Wimble '13
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