

# The Hamilton ALPHA DELTA

Hamilton College, Clinton, New York • Fall 2008



## ΑΔΦ – The Preeminent Society On The Hill

Dearest Hamilton Alpha Deltas,

Greetings from the Hill! I hope that our annual alumni newsletter finds you all in good health and strong spirits. Here on the Hill, the Alpha Delta Phi continues to remain the preeminent society on campus. Currently, we boast a membership of 50 active brothers, two of whom are spending this semester abroad. Brother Logan Burruss '10 is currently studying in Germany and Brother Andrew Sigler '10 is spending the fall semester in Washington, D.C. We are proud to have members of the fraternity representing the brotherhood abroad and look forward to hear about their great cultural experiences next fall.

I am very happy to inform all of

you that due to our strong recruiting efforts last year, we welcomed a new sophomore class consisting of 15 young men. There is no doubt that these fine young gentlemen will continue to uphold the values and spirit of the Alpha Delta Phi. All of these men are active members of the Hamilton community, as many of them participate on varsity sports teams, a wide variety of campus clubs, all while maintaining the highest of academic standards. Each of our new brothers will help strengthen the brotherhood with regards to scholarship, social activeness, and athletics. It is our hope to build on last year's recruiting success as we aim to have a pledge class of 20 for the 2008-'09 academic year.

With regards to philanthropic events, the current brothers, as well as our pledge class, continue to participate in both on-campus and off-campus events. We had a large number of brothers generously donate blood at the annual Red Cross Blood Drive and we have continued to participate in both the Heart Walk and Relay for Life events. Brother Sean Flatow '10 is in the process of starting a non-profit organization that aims to promote international philanthropic events, specifically geared towards young scholars from colleges and universities around the globe. We look forward to working in conjunction with Brother Flatow's organization in the near future.

With my term as president coming to an end, I would like to take this opportunity to thank both the undergraduate executive board and the alumni executive board for their work and cooperation. On behalf of all of the brothers on the Hill, I want to thank all of our fellow alumni for their continued, tireless support over the years. Without you, our beloved fraternity would not be the success it is today. We look forward to honoring and upholding the values of the Alpha Delta Phi for this semester and years to come.

Best regards and *Xaipe*,

Peter Finan '09  
Hamilton Chapter President  
pfinan@hamilton.edu

## Brother Diaz Dances To A Tropical Beat

When I look back on my college experience, I want to have no regrets about my time on the Hill. And my membership in this most

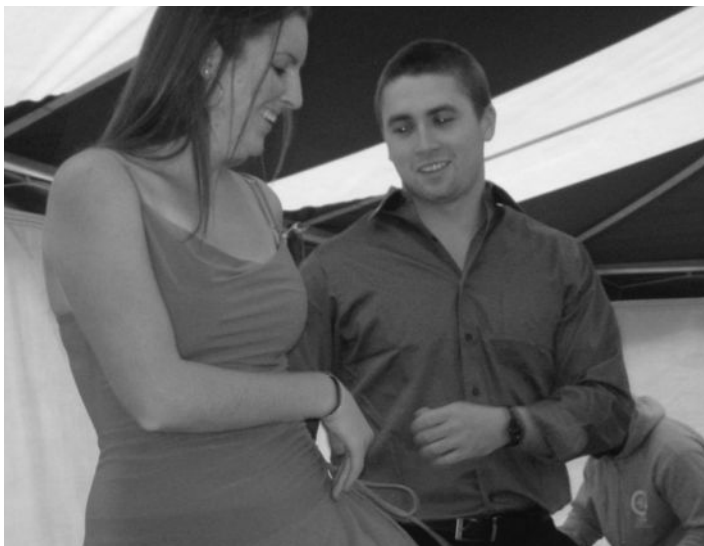
illustrious fraternity, The Alpha Delta Phi, is the affiliation of which I'm most proud. However, at the start of my senior year, I decided

that I wanted something more. While living in Madrid, Spain, last semester, I had an opportunity to learn the art of flamenco dance. Carrying on my experience from last semester, I realized I am quite capable of learning dance choreography and joined the dance group, Tropical Sol. Tropical Sol is a Latino dance group that focuses on salsa, meringue, tango, and other dance forms. Learning to dance these many different forms has been a rewarding experience and I'm taking full advantage of the opportunity. At the last Hamilton Alumni Weekend we had our first performance outside the Dunham quad at the International Bazaar. Before the performance, admittedly, I was somewhat nervous because this was my first event (outside of an informal performance that my flamenco class put on in Madrid). These nerves were quickly alleviated, due to the support of my Alpha Delta brethren. Over 30 members came to

support me and my dancing with Tropical Sol, and this made the atmosphere of the performance electric.

Having the support of the Alpha Deltas is something that need not be explained, but highlighted. The other members of the dance troupe were astonished that 30 *friends* came to support just one member of this society. I have never been so proud to be affiliated with over 30 other gentlemen in my life. This experience reaffirmed the idea that we are not just a social club. Each individual supports the man that stood next to him freshman year in front of most intimidating crowd they had ever confronted. Our experience in Alpha Delta Phi is one that makes us proud; it's something that few other individuals can understand. I am excited for my future performances and look forward to the rest of my senior year with the fraternity.

Brother Josef R. Diaz



Brother Josef Diaz performing with dance group Tropical Sol.

# First in our Distinguished Alumni Literary Contribution Series: Brother Sky Gellatly

I traveled up to the Hill in June 2008 for the five-year reunion of my graduating class. Full of excitement, I took a train to Utica after wrapping up my weekly work at *Details* magazine. As my train roared through Westchester, and then through Dutchess County, the persistent hum of railroad tracks under my feet, I eventually found myself next to the Hudson River, scanning the foothills of West Point. After pulling up to the Utica station, several of my fellow Alpha Delt's picked me up, seven of us in a sedan I think, and we raced to campus, chasing just one more afternoon of laughs in Clinton. We parked on campus near the gym and walked towards the Sigma Phi house; apparently several of our pledge brothers were there, having a few drinks in the fading lights of a perfect Upstate New York afternoon.

And yet, as we walked up to the Sig house, we realized that we weren't showing up late to a party—but, rather, to a memorial service for our classmate, Michael J. Cleary, who had been killed in Iraq in 2005. And then, in a very visceral way, “it” happened.

As Michael's friends and family members spoke about Michael and the amazing memories that he left behind, I heard about a cross-county run that Sig brother Jon Bellona, one of my collegiate soccer teammates, and several of his Sig brothers were doing to celebrate the memory of Michael—and other fallen soldiers like him.

I was immediately overwhelmed with emotion. I needed

to do something to help Jon and his team, but I felt out of place. I wasn't a Sig brother, Michael was more of a casual friend of mine from Hamilton, and there was this fulltime job that I was committed to. But as the memorial service closed I told myself that I would do something—I just didn't know what.

And, of course, the weekend, shortly thereafter, began to pulse with the subdued lunacy that Hamiltonians are always good for: laughs, hugs, singing, hydrating, and some serious late night activities. And, after a long drive back to Manhattan the next day, I found myself the next Monday, at 9:00 a.m., staring at a computer screen in a glimmering Conde Nast building, and feeling completely helpless. What was I doing to help? What was I doing with my life? Why Michael and not me? In the week after, I tried to get every footwear brand

that I knew to donate to Jon's team some equipment to help the cause. None of them helped. I tried a variety of beverage companies, but there were still no offers. So, instead, I made a big choice. I could go into a long, drawn-out explanation of why I quit my job at *Details* several weeks later, but I will say that a big reason was that I wanted to be a part of Jon's efforts in his Run For The Fallen. In order to help, I just had to go.

I remember calling Jon and telling him that I was going to meet him and his team in Virginia. He was excited because his squad, by the beginning of August, was pretty worn out and he needed some fresh legs. And I, a recent escapee from the grips of a 9-to-5 job, was revving to run, well actually run, fast. Jon sounded very focused on the run, very

organized as I would I knew he would be, and said he'd be waiting to see me in Virginia. A few days later, I pulled up to a small hotel in the outskirts of Christiansburg, Virginia, and said hello to the running team, and to several of my classmates from Hamilton. The team looked worn, but strong, and was putting together memorial flags for the next days run: 55 flags, one for each soldier that we'd be running a mile for the next day. I found out I'd be running 12 miles, one mile for a different fallen soldier.

Over the next week, many amazing events happened. I met Michael's proud parents, brother, and fiancée. I met parents whose fallen children (“Gold Star Families”) I had run a mile for; there is not enough space for those feelings. I met Vietnam vets who welled up with tears when thanking the team for celebrating the memory of brave soldiers, their own horrific and proud sentiments of battle dashing in their brains, and on their faces, in the blink of an eye. I ran past crowds of supportive, small-town Americans and through the solitude of Virginia's cascading mountain highways. I slept in my car, in a VFW, in a hotel, and in the homes of veterans. I ran more than I ever have. I thought little about what I ate, what I looked like, or what I had. I never had any excuses, I just did.

I encourage all of you to take a look at out the run's website, [www.runforthe fallen.org](http://www.runforthe fallen.org), so you can catch a lasting glimpse into what this run was all about, and why a documentary is now being put together as a celebration of it. In closing, let me share one more story about this run. One day, I had to run two extra miles after I had done my daily running. And it began to rain. In the last four

hundred yards, I was running up the steepest hill I faced the whole week and I was hurting. Suddenly, I just started talking to Michael; “Buddy, I could really use a little energy right now.” I said. All of a sudden, my pain went away and I began to sprint. I finished my run and a car with the runners behind me caught up to me. After every run, we each did a set of 30 push-ups. As I was doing my set, the rain, now in huge pellets, was splashing off the hot blacktop on my face.

As I got up, I saw Jon, and Michael's fiancée in the car behind me. In that moment, I got all of the thanks I would ever need, or the validation I'd ever look for, for doing this. I was there for Jon, and if the roles were reversed, I'd want someone like him there with me too—but I'd never ask. And I was there for Michael's fiancée, who, if I passed away and I left a widowed fiancée behind, I'd want guys like me around her to lend her a hand. Often times, we're all too cerebral. Sometimes, just doing something can have the lasting effect of a lifetime of words.

Sky Gellatly '03



Michael J. Cleary



Jon Bellona



Sky Gellatly '03

# Hamilton Brothers Speak at the Alexander Hamilton Institute

During the academic year 2007–2008, several brothers provided excellent examples of the fraternity's literary tradition by speaking formally at the Alexander Hamilton Institute for the Study of Western Civilization. In doing so, these brothers contributed strongly to the mission of the Institute in its inaugural year.

The Alexander Hamilton Institute was founded in August 2007, by Brother James Bradfield and two of his colleagues, History Professors Robert Paquette and Douglas Ambrose.

The Institute, which is fully independent of Hamilton College, seeks to broaden and deepen the appreciation for the principles on which the nation was founded by conducting rigorous analyses of capitalism, freedom, and democracy. The Institute does this by organizing lectures, discussions, and

major conferences.

Detailed information about the Institute is available at its website, the address for which is: [www.theahi.org](http://www.theahi.org).

The headquarters of the Institute is located in the former Alexander Hamilton Inn in the Village of Clinton.

In November 2007, Brothers Reid Snyder, Ned Gilliss, Nico Drohojowski, and Pat Van Grinsven spoke on "*The Effect of the Westward Expansion of the American Frontier on the Emergence of the United States as a World Power following WWI.*"

The four brothers, all seniors, created a presentation based on a synthesis of term papers that they were writing for a class in government. Each brother spoke for approximately 15 minutes.

In April, 2008, Brother Nicholas Rockwell '08, spoke on the implications of the Fed's rescue of Bear Stearns.

Each of the above events was preceded by a sumptuous dinner in the Institute for the speaker(s) and selected guests. Each event was open to the public. Several students and members of the

public attended.

Thus far in the current academic year, three brothers are scheduled to speak. Brother Bradfield speaks on Saturday, November 1s during Parents' Weekend, on the current crisis in the financial markets.

Brother Christopher Warren '09 will speak later during the fall semester on the historical evolution of the public's expectations for governmental policy during financial crises. He will cover the period from the late nineteenth century to the present crisis.

Brothers Sean Kiernan '10 and Andrew Rogan '10 will speak later in the academic year on the integration of Western ideas, particularly capitalism, into the culture of China. Both brothers are studying the Chinese language, and have studied in China.

The literary tradition of our fraternity and the mission of the Alexander Hamilton Institute are closely compatible. It is good to see the brothers participating in the Institute, and to see the Institute extending its hospitality to the brothers.



James Bradfield '81



The Alexander Hamilton Inn, home of the Alexander Hamilton Institute.

## What Goes Around...

June 17, 2008

Dear ADPhi Hamilton Chapter,

Chuck Colton '60 died on March 4, 2000. As his widow, I am delighted to send the enclosed check.

Chuck bequeathed this gift to Alpha Delta Phi. I chose Hamilton Chapter after reading the letter from Julian Scurci. My husband absolutely loved the fraternity and I am honored to send this bequest.

Sincerely,

*Pat Colton*

Pat Colton

Check out our new Website:

[www.hamiltonalphadeltaphi.org](http://www.hamiltonalphadeltaphi.org)

Hamilton College - ADP  
+ http://www.hamiltonalphadeltaphi.org/site/

ALPHA DELTA PHI  
Hamilton Chapter  
1832

Home History of the Fraternity Links Thinking of Joining? Contact Us

Welcome to the new Alpha Delta Phi - Hamilton College Web site

Welcome Prospective Brothers, Alumni, and Current Brothers

Welcome to Alpha Delta Phi's new web site. We hope you will enjoy this new platform and will return frequently. The ADP remains a healthy, vibrant, and dedicated organization on Hamilton College. Brothers young and old are proud of our literary tradition which, since 1832, remained the foundation of a truly unique organization. May this site provide numerous opportunities to engage, or re-engage, with brothers of your generation.

Fund Drive '08 Support your Chapter! DONATIONS

Brothers Login  
Username: \*  
Password: \*  
Log In  
Request new password

NOTICE - User IDs and Passwords Coming!  
Posted by admin on Wed, 10/08/2008 - 16:59

Welcome again to the newly redeveloped Hamilton Alpha Delta Phi site. As you recently read the letter of our new alumni president, Nick Sarro-Waite '03, announce this site, it is a major step forward in our technology. It will enable brothers to connect and communicate in ways never done in our society's history [click the the above link to keep reading].

# ΑΔΦ ALUMNI NEWS *from Near & Far*

Are you interested in becoming a member of our alumni board?

Over the past five years we have made strategic growth in our capabilities and we need more insightful alumni to help us deliver on our mission. If you are interested in working with the alumni board, please contact Board President Nicholas Sarro-Waite at [Nicholas.sarrowaite@gmail.com](mailto:Nicholas.sarrowaite@gmail.com).

**Mallory Stephens '50** writes, "Since moving to New Hampshire in 1997, I have volunteered at the Kingswood Youth Center in Wolfeboro. Last fall, the KYC purchased land and is now putting up a new building. I've been on the capital campaign fundraising committee since last fall and am now the Chairman." Reach Mallory at P.O. Box 104, Mirror Lake, NH 03853; send e-mail to [andm3689@roadrunner.com](mailto:andm3689@roadrunner.com).

**Emmons G. Paine '51** is a retired cardiologist and is "thoroughly enjoying it." Write to him at 7093 Rain Forest Dr., Boca Raton, FL 33434; send e-mail to [emmonspaine@aol.com](mailto:emmonspaine@aol.com).

**Harry C. Groome '60** is a writer. After a business career of almost 40 years, he retired as Chairman of SmithKline Beecham Consumer HealthCare. He served on many corporate boards, both in the United States and in the United Kingdom.

Then, he returned to his writing. Harry's short stories have appeared in



*Harry Groome '60*

anthologies and numerous journals (including *American Writing* and *Gray's Sporting Journal*) and have received several awards. Harry recently finished his first novel, *Wing Walking*, and is hard at work on his second. *Wing Walking* is a business story that opens the door to the boardroom and provides a look at the well-hidden personal motives that shape executive decisions at the highest levels. Egos and ambition, power and betrayal, love and longing weave together an engaging cast of characters in a tale that starts with the FDA recalling a blockbuster drug.

New York Times bestselling author Bret Lott writes, "Harry Groome's *Wing Walking* is an elegantly taut page-turner, an intelligent tale of suspense and corporate double-dealing that gives us a chilling glimpse into the inner sanctum of the business world in a time when mega-corporations are suddenly revealed to be a bigger part of our daily lives than ever we imagined."

Harry reports, "I began writing as a stringer for the *New York Herald Tribune* while in high school. In those days my heroes were Ernest Hemingway, J.D. Salinger and John Steinbeck. During the Hamilton rush frenzy I thought that Alpha Delta Phi had an added

prestige in that it was founded as a literary society. I secretly took pride in Alpha Delt's original mission then and still do today. It made Alpha Delt feel like a comfortable fit for me and the fact that that feeling has come full circle with *Wing Walking* pleases me greatly."

Reach Harry at 459 Mystic St., Arlington, MA 02474; send e-mail to [hgroome@themojogroup.com](mailto:hgroome@themojogroup.com).

**Peter Strawbridge '60** writes, "I've been happily retired since 1996 after a 35-year career in my family department store business. In June 2008 my wife, Liz, and I celebrated 48 years of marriage. We met for the first time in 1957 at an ADPhi party after a hockey game.' We have three daughters (one of whom attended Hamilton) and six grandchildren. Our main home is west of Philadelphia, but we spend eight weeks each fall and winter near Charleston, South Carolina and six weeks in the summer on Squirrel Island, Maine. Currently I chair a local

land conservation organization. I see Brothers 'Barney' Johnston '60 and Harry Groome '60 frequently and have periodic telephone contact with Tom Perkins '60. I'm really looking forward to our 50th Reunion in 2010." Reach Peter at 8002 Goshen Rd., Newtown Square, PA 19073; [psstrawb@aol.com](mailto:psstrawb@aol.com).

**David G. Bugliari '01** lives at 1025 S Ridgeley Dr., Los Angeles, CA 90019 where he works for Creative Artists; send e-mail to [dbugliari@caa.com](mailto:dbugliari@caa.com).

**Wesley Sherman '04** reports, "I graduated from the Florida State University College of Law in May and took the Florida bar exam in July. I then traveled to Israel for a couple of weeks in August, which was an amazing experience. I have since begun work as an associate for the law firm of Cole, Scott & Kissane in its West Palm Beach office." Write to Wesley at 888 Taft Ct., Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410; e-mail [wds Sherman9@yahoo.com](mailto:wds Sherman9@yahoo.com).

## DECEASED

*We regret to report the death of the following alumni:*

**George W. Brown '32**  
*on May 10, 2008*

**John W. Bicknell '35**  
*on January 14, 2006*



*Brother Roman Kolosovsky '11 and Alumni Brother Eliot Beck '08 enjoying the football tailgate at Hamilton Alumni Weekend.*



*Brother Tidelco Ductan '09 and Brother Dan Gross '11 at the football tailgate during Hamilton Alumni Weekend.*