



# Sigma Phi Delta Fraternity

## Vancouver Alumni Chapter

### THE ALUMNIFLIER

October 2002

Dear Alumnus

*The second of 2002! I started by just trying to make sure we would keep up with just one a year, and here we are with a second. I think I need a hobby ;) Of course, I have to thank Brother Edmund Gin for his amazing ability to nag me to death when things needed to be done. All kidding aside, this Chapter would soon fall to pieces were it not for the efforts of the officers and the members-at-large who continually contribute each and every year. Be it sending in yearly donations to keep the finances running, organizing events, paying the bills, or attending the monthly meetings, or just keeping touch via email, we wouldn't exist without it. Thank you to everyone for your efforts, your attendance, and your donations. Please feel free to contact any of us if you ever have questions of any input that you feel will make your contributions more worthwhile to you.*

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#### **Fraternal Tidings**

Brother Scott Groves (Civil '94) wrote us to tell of the birth of a second baby for him and his wife Christa. Zachary Groves joined the ranks at 8:30pm, August 24, 2002 weighing in at 6 lbs. 8oz.

Brother Peter “Smerf” Celler (Mech '02) has transplanted to Germany in order to study for his Masters Degree.

Brother Sean Grant (Mech '00) married Laura Plenert in Vancouver on June 15, and Cory ‘Chia’ Tompkins announced his engagement to Jennifer Estrella September 6.

Brother Ron Byrne (Civil '99) wrote to inform us that he will break the chains of American residency in mid-November, and return to Vancouver to work as a Transportation Engineer.

Congratulations to Brother Alex Lornie (Civil '02) and his newly-wedded wife Julie. He recently graduated from San Francisco State University, and they are currently living in downtown San Francisco.

If you have any other information that you would like to have noted in this section of the newsletter, then please let us know ([Vancouver@sigphi.org](mailto:Vancouver@sigphi.org)).

## **Vancouver Chapter Meetings**

Alumni Chapter meetings are now monthly, 7 pm on the second Monday of every month at the Elephant and Castle, BCIT (Burnaby). Due to the Remembrance Day long weekend, the meeting will be one week later (November 18<sup>th</sup>) and will return to its regular days for December onward. Meeting minutes are available online at <http://www.sigphi.org/vancouver/minutes> shortly after each meeting. Please feel free to join us!

## **Back to Basics: Beer, Ale & Lager** **(A slanted opinion by KEGGER!!!)**

Has anyone every posed the question “If you could only have one thing to drink for the rest of your life, what would it be?” This is a no-brainer for me. BEER. But having thought this through one more step it would have to be ale? Ale you ask? Well here’s a little background

Beers fall into two broad categories: Those that are produced by top-fermenting yeasts (ales) and those that are made with bottom-fermenting yeasts (lagers). There are hybrids, but that’s another discussion. I’m going to explain why ale is the better choice over lager.

I’m going to use just two points to prove my position. The number of choices with each beer in their traditional forms (excluding seasonal beers and the hybrids that may cloud our judgment) and the temperature that you drink them at.

Lets start with choices. With a Lager type of beer, you have the obvious lager and it’s long-standing and world-renowned pilsner. This is ignoring specialties/seasonals like bocks and doppelbocks, Maerzens/Oktobefests, Dortmunders and a few other styles found mostly in Germany.

Pilsner is a clear, golden lager with a dry but soft malty taste and flowery hop aroma and lager is a beer that is attenuated, cleaner, rounder but arguably less complexity than is found in ales. Unfortunately, every North American lager is shooting for the same thing. Boring.....

One could mention Light beer, with it’s higher water to grain ratio and Ice beer, that allows ice crystals to form

and then the ice is filtered out but these are just mundane lagers like the rest.

Basically, there are only 2 types of lagers. After a while one might get bored of only two choices.

Now lets talk about ales. There are the many types of ales that are produced to a wide variety of colours, palates and strengths. They include everything with ale in the name. Pale ale, Brown ale, Amber ale, Cream ale, Bitter ale, Mild ale, India Pale Ale, Light Ale, Old Ale, Scotch Ale, etc., including Porter and Stout dark ales. They generally have a more robust taste and are more complex. They can have nutty, fruity and/or hoppy overtones and range from sweet to dry (lacking any sweetness). With all these choices, I know I never would get bored.

Let’s move to temperature.

Lagers are best consumed at a cooler temperature. For most people below 10C is appropriate, although anything served at less than 38F/3C will lose most of its flavour. This means that as lager warm up they don’t get any better tasting. Lagers are usually thought of as crisp with little to no aftertaste, but warm them up and the aftertaste becomes more pronounced. This is usually not a good thing.

Ales generally have a more robust taste, are more complex and are best consumed cool (50F/10C or a bit warmer) rather than cold. With the extra complexities, ales flavours only become more pronounced as it warms up. These flavours are a good thing and the reason I like to drink them.

So to summarize, my two points were that lagers only come in 2 types (leaving out specialties/seasonals) and ales come in a large variety. Secondly, ales can be drank at warmer temperatures than lagers. This allows one to pour a really big mug of ale and not have to worry as much about it warming a little before you drink it.

Cheers!

Jan “KEGGER!!!” Laursen  
Vice-President

## **Social Coordinator Report**

Greetings all. My name is Tyler Borges (a.k.a. Duck) and I am the current Social Coordinator for the Vancouver Alumni.

This summer saw a very successful 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual North Shore Pub Crawl. Approximately 20 people made their way across the North Shore, starting at the Troller in Horseshoe Bay at 11:00am and ending at the Raven in Deep Cove at 1:00am. Many libations and good times were had by all, including Brother Don Nash who celebrated his 30<sup>th</sup> birthday (with cake) along the way.

Thanks to Brother Justin Malcolm for donating much needed couches and floor space at his place for us all to sleep on. I think Brother Brad Hawthorn summed up the evening well when departing the next morning: "It's been a slice. Let's not do this for another year."

Fast approaching is the Vancouver Alumni Christmas Social. Tentatively, the date will be Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup> or Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2002. We are still looking for a host this year. If you feel so inclined as to host the social this year (and have a place bigger than my one bedroom apartment), please contact me (see info below) and we can work out the details. As usual, all food and drink will be provided, drinking glasses will be rented. As host, you are expected to relax, and enjoy the party, without getting stuck with all the work.

Cheers!

Tyler "Duck" Borges  
Social Coordinator

## **Active Chapter House**

First of all, it's official, the house is not for sale (long story). Seven of the nine available rooms are presently occupied this term and it looks as though the Haus should be full next term as people return from co-op positions. Aside from some needed minor repairs, the Haus is in good shape. Over the past year, the backyard was improved by the addition of a paved walkway. The Haus Manager is currently in the process of collection debts owed to the Haus in excess of \$18,000. Thankfully, the money is gradually coming in and the majority of the accounts should be up to date within the

year. That money, along with the \$10,000 currently in the bank should be enough to keep us protected from any unseen major expenses. The only additional expenses that are foreseen for the near future are either repairing or replacing the two dryers. Overall, the house is in great shape financially, as well.

Chad Brown  
Haus Liaison

## **Sigphi.ca Email**

### **You@SigPhi.ca!**

The Vancouver Alumni association has acquired a domain! SigPhi.ca will be used for personal email aliasing, Fraternity email lists, and webpage hosting. Email addresses (and perhaps eventually web space) on this domain will be made available to Active and Alumni members.

For years, I've wanted a Frat email address that would stay static for life; unfortunately this vision was restricted by the financial limitation of hosting a mail server on a static IP address. New software has come out that lets us bind a static domain name to a dynamic IP address; using this service, we have been able to assign this SigPhi.ca domain name to the House's ADSL connection.

Nothing is carved in stone yet, but we are thinking that email addresses will be assigned on the following guidelines:

- Two aliases can be assigned per person; a proper name (e.g. JBreadner@SigPhi.ca) and a nickname (e.g. Worf@SigPhi.ca). Conflicts will be dealt with on a first-come, first-served basis.
- Email lists for Actives and Alumni will be created and maintained by the mail sysop. Examples of lists are: Alumni@, Actives@, Pledges@, SoccerTeam@, and ClassOf1995@SigPhi.ca. Any reasonable list will be considered.
- Aliases for Active and Alumni positions will be created. Examples of aliases are Pres@, AlumniSecretary@, and Postmaster@SigPhi.ca. Again, any reasonable alias will be considered.

This server will not be a POP access server; it will only forward mail in an effort to reduce hardware costs. Thus, the user will be responsible for keeping the mail sysop informed of a valid email address that the mail will be forwarded to. Forwarding addresses can be updated by using the automated mail server code (instructions will be mailed when you sign up) or by mailing the mail sysop at [Postmaster@SigPhi.ca](mailto:Postmaster@SigPhi.ca).

*(disclaimer) We cannot be responsible for mail that goes through this server; we will do our best to keep the service running in a timely manner, but the very nature of the House pretty much guarantees down time (though there will be a backup server running off site). It's best to keep these addresses for casual personal use and for Fraternity business.*

The domain and dynamic IP handling was purchased and donated by Justin Malcolm; the hardware for the server was donated by Kevin Deane-Freeman. Server installation, backup mail service and account administration will be handled by Jeff Breadner. Internet access will be provided by the House.

Drop a line to [Postmaster@SigPhi.ca](mailto:Postmaster@SigPhi.ca) if you're interested in getting an account!

Cheers

Jeff (Worf) Breadner  
([Jeff@Breadner.ca](mailto:Jeff@Breadner.ca))

## **Secretarial Report**

Recently, not much has been happening on the correspondence front. The only major thing of note was the receipt of a series of General Convention Ballots to deal with issues spanning from streamlining of the Fraternity, to inclusion of non-North American institutions. These ballots have been submitted, and the results are as follows:

### Expand the Fraternity beyond North America:

Aye 21  
Nay 2  
Question Passed

### Change qualifications of Board of Trustee members:

Aye 21  
Nay 2  
Question Passed

### Accept the Petition for Charter from the students at Bangladesh University of Engineering Technology:

Aye 19  
Nay 4  
Question Passed

### Amend the Statutory Code to streamline Fraternity Organization:

Aye 19  
Nay 4  
Question Passed

### Choosing a design for a Fraternity Logo:

Design #1 – 8  
Design #2 – 2  
Neither – 6  
No Vote – 7  
Question failed – neither design received a majority.

In terms of the membership database, the National Executive Director, Brother Bob Featheringham, has been trying to locate lost Brothers. If you know of any Brothers who have not been receiving correspondence from National or our Chapter, and you know them to still have an interest in the affairs of the Fraternity, please have them contact me at [egin@interchange.ubc.ca](mailto:egin@interchange.ubc.ca), or Brother Bob Featheringham at [secretary@sigphi.org](mailto:secretary@sigphi.org) (or at PO Box 5260, Toms River, NJ, 08754).

Finally, I would like to poll interest on a possible summer event – the North Dakota Alumni Chapter currently runs an annual golf "tournament", and knowing that we in BC have much more scenic golf courses, I was wondering what you all think of the idea, and any suggestions you may have. Most importantly though, in order to make it a worthwhile effort to organize, I would need to know how many people would be interested in participating. Ideally, I would like to make it a chance for Alumni and Actives to hang out together and get to know each other, but as long as there are enough people interested, I'd be willing to look into an Alumni-only event.

Fraternally,  
Edmund "Ead" Gin  
Secretary

## Treasurer's Report

Well, it's that time of year again. Time to bang the tin cup. If each alumnus would only contribute ten bucks - that would translate into between \$2000 and \$3000 for the coffers. C'mon lads, let's ensure that Vancouver Alumni Chapter of ΣΦΔ remains financially healthy. The financial statement for the year ending March 31, 2002 is attached. Please take the time to review it.

I would like at this point to thank last years contributors: Peter Schmelcher (\$20); Tyler Borges (\$40); Dave Chwaklinski (\$100); Scott Groves (\$110); Rob McKay (\$20); Dan Wallace (\$60); Frank George (\$50); Justin Malcom (\$10); and Kevin Oldknow (\$30 US).

On another matter - for those unaware - the Alumni Chapter has a considerable investment in ethical funds. The intent of these funds is to provide capital in the event of major household renovations or reconstruction. These funds have been invested conservatively - hence they have steadily grown but not at the rate of other funds. The Alumni Chapter would like to solicit input with regards to our funds. Should we be investing in higher risk funds? Should our funds be more diversified? Should we keep our funds right where they are? Would an alumnus with financial expertise be interested in managing the Alumni Chapter's funds? We would like to hear from you.

Regards,  
Brent "Skip" Dozzi  
Treasurer

### Financial Statement For Year Ending March 31, 2002

<u>LEDGER</u>	<u>DEBIT</u>	<u>CREDIT</u>	<u>BALANCE</u>
Operating Account <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Opening Balance</li> <li>• Transfer To Operating Account</li> <li>• Dues</li> <li>• Service Charges</li> <li>• Xmas Social</li> <li>• Society Filing Fee</li> <li>• Xmas Social Supplies</li> <li>• Mary Gillespie Memorial Award</li> <li>• Closing Balance</li> </ul>			<b><u>(\$378.18)</u></b>
		\$650.00	
	\$317.08		
	\$20.00		
		\$1125.00	
	\$25.00		
	\$391.95		
	\$150.00		
			<b><u>\$492.79</u></b>
House Account <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Opening Balance</li> <li>• Household Insurance</li> <li>• Property Taxes</li> <li>• Household Insurance</li> <li>• Property Taxes</li> <li>• Property Taxes</li> <li>• Closing Balance</li> </ul>			<b><u>\$2387.00</u></b>
	\$1978.00		
		\$2916.26	
		\$1978.00	
	\$5303.26		
	\$3000.00		
			<b><u>(\$3000.00)</u></b>
Maintenance Account <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Opening Balance</li> <li>• Transfer To Operating Account</li> <li>• Donations</li> <li>• Closing Balance</li> </ul>			<b><u>\$4931.90</u></b>
	\$650.00		
		\$410.00	
			<b><u>\$4691.90</u></b>
Total			<b><u>\$2184.69</u></b>

BALANCE SHEET

<u>ASSETS</u>		<u>LIABILITIES</u>
Land	\$690,000.00	
Improvements	\$66,400.00	
Canada Trust Account	\$2184.69	
Ethical Fund	\$12,934.67	
Total	<b>\$764,278.70</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>

**Alumni Chapter Executive**

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'Haus' Liaison: Chad "Big Daddy" Brown  
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I hope you enjoyed this edition of the newsletter. If you have any comments or suggestions, then please feel free to contact me.



Kevin "Fishbone" Deane-Freeman, Chapter President  
Sigma Phi Delta, Vancouver Alumni