

THE Ruminator

OMEGA TAU SIGMA | CORNELL UNIVERSITY | FALL 2010

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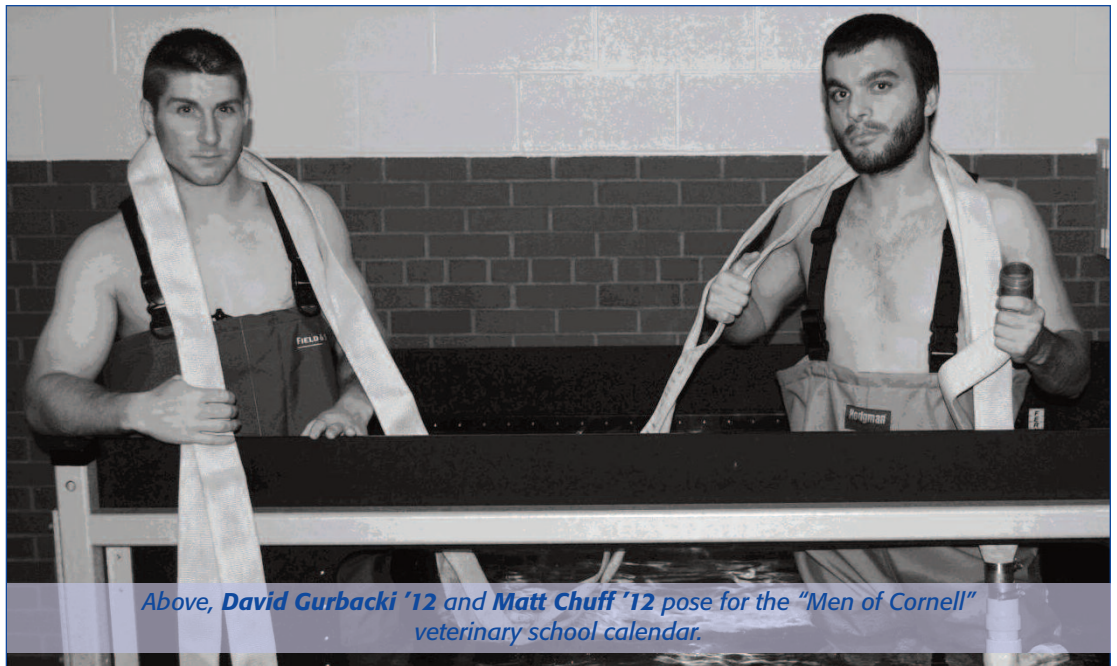
Alumni updates

Men of the vet school strut their stuff!

As the newly-appointed “calendar chair,” I proudly announce the return of the Men of Cornell calendar for 2011. Featuring only the cream of the crop, this calendar may show a different side of the vet school and its daily inhabitants. Students and faculty have graciously volunteered their modeling talents to help us remember each month of 2011, men like third-years **Matthew Chuff '12** and **David Gurbacki '12**, pictured below in the small-animal water-therapy treadmill!

Interested in seeing more? Preorder requests may be directed to Raina Kaplan via email at rsk32@cornell.edu. Simply include your name, address, and the number of calendars you would like, and you will receive a personal reply with payment instructions. Proceeds help fund Omega Tau Sigma events. Hurry now to make sure you get yours hot off the press and in time for the new year!

Raina Kaplan '13
Calendar Chair



Above, **David Gurbacki '12** and **Matt Chuff '12** pose for the “Men of Cornell” veterinary school calendar.

Saving lives, one pint at a time

Omega Tau Sigma sponsors American Red Cross blood drives at the veterinary college every 56 days, throughout the school year. Our first drive, coinciding with the start of classes in August, was a great success! We collected 96 percent of our goal, which makes it one of the most successful blood drives on the Cornell University campus. In fact, our location and donor base routinely meets or exceeds our collection goals. We collected 40 pints of whole

blood and five pints of double red cells. In addition, we recruited 10 first-time donors. Omega Tau Sigma volunteers registered donors and staffed the snack tables all day; many donated blood as well! We are already planning for our drive in November, which we expect will also be successful.

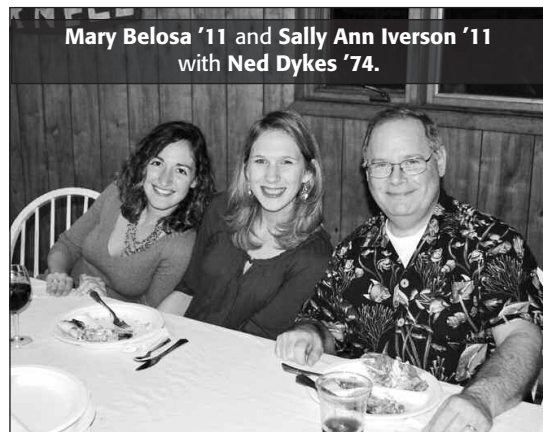
Stephanie Silberstang '13
Blood Drive Chair

Chapter review from the alumni president

The annual meeting of Omega Tau Sigma was held on Friday, October 1, at 200 Willard Way. Exercising the form of constitutional laxity known only to our chapter, annual reports were delivered and accepted by a combination of actives and alumni. When the election of officers was held, last year's officers were unanimously re-elected for another term. I'm pleased to serve again, and I hope that the others not in attendance are also willing! We are financially solvent, though never flush, with cash. Our treasurer, **Bart Forlano '96**, reports a good start to the yearly request for dues and contributions. We begin this cycle with the start of the school year each September, remind you in the spring *Ruminator*, and send letters in late summer to jolt you into action. Thanks to every-

one who gives yearly, as this is the lifeblood of the fraternity. Still, less than 20 percent of our alumni contribute, and we could do so much more if we simply doubled that percentage. We have recommended giving levels in the mailings but feel free to give whatever you can afford—more is better, but every gift is helpful. Recall your years in Ithaca and the impact of OTS Beta on your time at Cornell. Please consider giving to the chapter as we move into our Centennial Year. We are the oldest active chapter in the OTS National Fraternity, and we will celebrate this centennial by hosting the Grand Council here in Ithaca in October 2011.

Ned Dykes '74
Alumni President



Mary Belosa '11 and Sally Ann Iverson '11 with Ned Dykes '74.



Actives and alumni mingle at the dinner following the "Purple Party" in October 2010.

THE Ruminator

is published regularly by Omega Tau Sigma at Cornell University for its members and friends. News and submissions are always welcome and should be sent to: Alumni Records Office, Omega Tau Sigma at Cornell, P.O. Box 876, Ithaca, NY 14851.



Buddy at the rush "Around the World" party.



Kerry Ryan '12, Linda Marie Pedro '13, and Julia Miller '12 at the "High School Reunion" party last spring.

Report from the chapter treasurer

The last year has been successful for the Beta Chapter. Renewed member enthusiasm has enhanced membership retention each semester, dramatically increasing dues income. This fall, the large rush class is adding to chapter revenue. Thanks to the dedication and hard work of our officers and members, the Beta Chapter raised more money than ever for our philanthropic causes. In

2009–2010, we raised nearly \$7,000 for local charities, including Southside Healthy Pet Clinic, Cornell University Patient Assistance Fund, SPCA of Tompkins County, and Cancer Resource Center of the Finger Lakes.

Kerry Ryan '12
Treasurer

Actives and alumni meet and mingle

On Friday, October 1, OTS members and alumni gathered at 200 Willard Way to enjoy dinner following the NYSVMS/Cornell Conference, "Purple Party." Alumni admired the beautifully renovated downstairs bar, enjoyed the benefits of a kegerator, and watched football on the flat-screen TV. We had lasagna—in the classic style, with tomato sauce, and in the veggie

style, with alfredo sauce—accompanied by salad and garlic bread. To finish off the feast, current OTS members shared their favorite brownie renditions, topped with ice cream and hot fudge! There wasn't a bit of food left over ... a testament to the talent of our student chefs!

Tonie Domino '13
Alumni Chair

An eventful beginning for 2010

We started the year with an August barbecue, open to the entire school, and were rewarded with a great turnout on a beautiful Ithaca evening. We ate, drank, laughed, fraternized, and learned that separate spatulas are needed when carnivores and vegetarians mix on the grill!

Rush sponsored an "around the world" theme party, and 10 countries were represented throughout the house. Guests were given passports and guided themselves on a strange, exotic journey from Milan to Minsk, even experiencing a little of the Cold War in flip-cup form.

We teamed up with SCAVMA for the biannual dog wash to raise money

for both groups. Although it was a little windy and rainy, many current and future members braved the weather and early hours to bathe our local canines.

Rush events finished this semester with a homemade Italian dinner and a question-and-answer session with our officers to learn more about the Beta Chapter social and service events. On bid night, 37 rushes were accepted and, with wine glass in hand, were taught the OTS chapter song (you all know it!) from our alumni president and chapter adviser, Ned Dykes '74. Initiation night was a successful and safe, though rain-soaked, event.

Rachel Fogg '13
Rush Chair

Social chairs take their jobs seriously

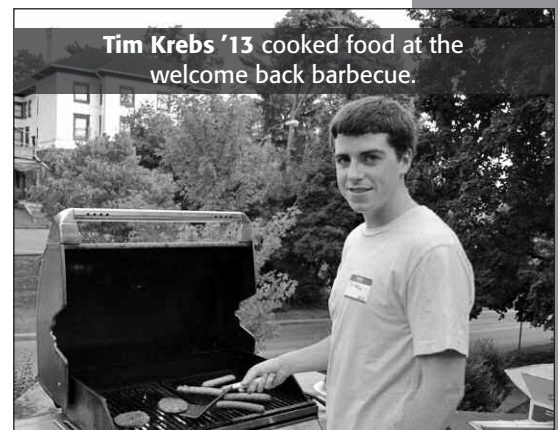
Vet school can be stressful and make you tired; it's the social committee's job to bring some relaxation to the daily life of OTS members! The social chairs have shouldered the responsibility to provide members with opportunities to relax, have fun, drink responsibly, and dance a lot. OTS has hosted many basement events creating what, we hope, will become annual traditions.

Last spring, we hosted several parties on a modest budget. At every party we have two sobriety monitors to maintain a responsible drinking environment and ensure people return home safely. We provide food and non-alcoholic beverages, as well as our famous "jungle juice" that gets people onto the dance floor. Parties coincided with two prospective-student weekends, so we could entertain and get to know the "new kids," many of who were staying with current veterinary students. It's a good opportunity to convince students to accept admission to Cornell and start OTS rush initiatives.

Our "high school reunion" party happened on a snowy, late-winter night. Attendees included a foreign exchange student, jocks, safety patrols, some of the hottest nerds we've ever seen, and even a fake-pregnant teen. "Bar initiation night" celebrated the opening of the newly-renovated basement bar and flat-screen TV social-center. At the final event, the "anything but clothes" party, members flaunted their creative side, piecing together multicolored duct tape, shopping bags, plastic tablecloths, magazine clippings, and grain sacs to cover up ... sort-of! Only one member showed up in clothes ... and he wore a very carefully-placed sock!

This fall, we have a few more events in the works. We look forward to sharing what is yet to come; let me tell you, it's going to be good. The traditions live on!

Sarah Kalafut '13, Caitlin Roswell '13,
and Linda Marie Pedro '13
Social Chairs



Dude looks like a lady

This November, the veterinary college and OTS will host the annual "Misster Cornell" pageant to support the Cancer Resource Center of the Finger Lakes and, specifically, breast cancer awareness. The James Law Auditorium will host this annual drag-queen beauty and talent show, featuring the most self-assured males in the vet school. With clever names like Jenny Talia, the "ladies" perform, answer questions, and compete in a number of categories, including "best makeup" and "tallest heels." Last year, we had a fantastic group of contestants, and this year, we plan on one-upping that by including some of Cornell's more open-minded faculty. A certain dermatology professor will be making an appearance as Demi Dex, and that alone should provide enough laughter to fill two auditoriums. If you are in the area on **Friday, November 19 at 8:00 p.m.**, please stop by the James Law Auditorium for a gender-bending night of hilarity, benefiting a most worthy cause. It is certain to be a show-stopper!

Julia Miller '12
Chapter President

Alumni updates

Still enjoying retirement with his wife, Kate, **John W. McVicar '52** wrote, "After 54 wonderful years of marriage with four kids and nine grandchildren, it is nice to relax. Elkton is just outside of St. Augustine and it would be great to see any oat baggers who may be passing by. Please pass on a belated 'happy birthday' to Francis! Great job on the bar, Pat and Josh, from a former social chairman!" Write to John at 5229 Verano Point Way, Elkton, FL 32033; or e-mail him at mcvicar1015@aol.com.

Catch up with **Robert K. Lee '61**, who recently relocated, by writing to 34 Candlewood Lake Rd. N., New Milford, CT 06776; or e-mail rkleee34@aol.com.

Kenneth F. Delus '69 sends his greetings. Catch up with him by writing to 3740 Rose of Sharon Dr. West, Orlando, FL 32808; or kdelius1@cs.com.

Reconnect with **Ronnie L. Schenkein '80** at 24 Kio Rd., Coudersport, PA 16915; or ronniedm@zitomedia.net.

In our last newsletter, **Candace K. Platz '81** shared news of her endeavors toward earning a USDF gold medal, as well as a life-saving surgery Susan Fubini, from Cornell DVM, performed on her horse. For this newsletter, Candace clarified details about the story: "Susan Fubini did not do surgery on my Grand Prix horse 24 years ago—as it said in the last newsletter. That would be an amazing feat since [my horse] is only 16 years old! Actually, I think it was only four years ago." Ask Candace about her progress towards the gold USDF medal by writing to P.O. Box 1240, Auburn, ME 04211; or get ahold of her by e-mail at candyplatz@gmail.com.

Get in touch with **Pepi F. Leids '82** at 7021 Boot Jack Rd., Bath,

NY 14810; or pleids@aol.com.

Catch up with **Donna M. Raditic '86** at 1220 Ashgrove Place, Knoxville, TN 37919.

"I still work in Andover, Massachusetts," wrote **Kim Wadsworth '90**, "but I've moved to Beacon Hill in Boston and love city-living and being near the Public Garden. Feel free to drop in on me if you're in Boston!" You can find Kim at 145 Pinckney St., Apt. 112, Boston, MA 02114; or e-mail kcvt@aol.com.

"Hello to all my fellow OTS buddies," wrote **Linda Messinger '90**, "I hope you are all doing well!" Learn more about Linda's career by visiting vrcc.com or the Facebook fan page, Veterinary Skin & Allergy Specialists. You can also write to 5401 S. Geneva St., Englewood, CO 80111; or e-mail Linda at lmessinger@vrcc.com.

Send your greetings to **Charlotte "Lotta" Fagraeus '94** by writing to 102 Odessa Way, Newark, DE 19711; or e-mail cefdvm@msn.com.

Exciting news from **Joseph A. Impellizeri '94**, who works for Veterinary Specialty Center of the Hudson Valley, "We are now one of five places in the world that offers bone marrow transplants for canine lymphoma, with a 50–75 percent cure rate. Yahoo!" Contact him at 69 Dakota Dr., Hopewell Junction, NY 12533; or e-mail him at hhvetspecialists@yahoo.com.

Contact **Robert W. Nichols III '03** at his new location: 4324 West Lake Marriet parkway, Minneapolis, MN 55410. He can still be reached by e-mail at rwn5@cornell.edu.

Ashley N. Kitzmiller '04, is now Ashley N. Shelton Morgan and has relocated to 9222 Villa Dr.,

Bethesda, MD 20817; e-mail her at ans25@cornell.edu.

Reconnect with **Anya N. Gambino '08** by writing to 3 Perkins Sq. #14, Boston, MA 02130; or e-mail agambino@mspca.org.

Stay in touch with **Corinne Lemay '08** at 801 River Rd., Manchester, NH 03104; or e-mail clemay.dvm@gmail.com.

DECEASED

William H. Moulton '39
June 21, 2010

Elizabeth Russell Owings '40
May 30, 2010

Du Bois L. Jenkins '43
March 13, 2010

Hermann Bernhard Stein '45
November 12, 2009

Charles R. Eble '45
October 4, 2008

Mathias J. Kemen '47
August 3, 2009

William P. Darrow '50
May 11, 2010

Alvin Eugene Hixon '50
June 14, 2010

Vincent E. McKenna '50
May 22, 2010

Nils O. Isachsen '51
May 6, 2009

John L. Hyde '54
April 19, 2010

Donald J. Newman '54
April 25, 2010

Emil E. Perona '56
December 21, 2009

Joseph W. Adams '61
May 7, 2009

Thomas H. Chase '81
February 21, 2010

