



# THE BAZOO

Delta Upsilon at Syracuse University • Spring 2023

## Recent Chapter Updates and More

### CHAPTER ADVISORY BOARD UPDATE

The board continues to provide mentoring and advice to the chapter's executive board officers. Our monthly board meetings with Chapter President **Ethan Gunther '24** and Executive Vice President **Jacob Leisawitz '24** are both productive and fun. We routinely discuss recruitment, associate member education, non-hazing core values, philanthropy events, IHQ programming, DEI, academic excellence, loss prevention, and a host of other important topics.

This fall, **Ed Castagna '90** will be stepping down as the advisor to the associate member educator, and **Marco Tinetto '23** will be taking his place. The board wishes to thank Ed for his many years of service. You're the best, Ed!

### OCCUPANCY NOW AND FOR 2023-24

With the return from abroad of Senior (and former Dikaia Scholar) **Miles Isgrig '23**, 801 Walnut was nearly full in Spring 2023 with 24 undergraduates living in five singles, eight doubles, and one triple.

Many thanks to President **Ethan Gunther '24** and Housing Manager **Dylan Greenhouse '24** for their outstanding efforts to fill the house next year: at this writing, we have 25 fully executed leases for Fall 2023 and 22 for Spring 2024. Kudos as well to the new Xi Associate Member class who are on track to set a new participation record: 16 of its 17 members (94%) have signed leases to live in the house for the 2023/24 academic year!

### 801 WALNUT IMPROVEMENTS

Over the past few years, Housing Corp has partnered with landlord Delta Tau Delta to make material upgrades and improvements to the chapter house. In 2022, over \$100,000 was invested in commercial-grade Wi-Fi, new kitchen equipment, new doors/deadbolts, renovation of two half-baths on the ground floor, and various other enhancements to lighting, electrical, and flooring.

Momentum has continued into 2023. Thus far, over \$50,000 was invested to build a new basement half bath, do a light renovation of the chapter room, and make upgrades to various life-safety, lighting, and alarm systems.  $\Delta T\Delta$  is in final negotiations with a contractor to renovate the first floor bathroom and remove walls to open up the dining area/TV Room over the summer.

### CONTRIBUTIONS FROM EVERYONE

These improvements have only been possible because **every stakeholder has contributed**.

- The undergraduates have done a good job recruiting and keeping the house full.
- Live-ins have taken care of the house, minimizing the expense run-rate for damage-induced maintenance and repairs.
- Non-residents have contributed via parlor fees and also by treating the house with respect.
- Delta Tau Delta has been a collaborative and generous partner.
- The Chapter Advisory, DUSU Housing Corp, and Dikaia boards have all contributed financially and strongly endorsed the improvement projects to support new member recruitment and improve quality of life.

### LOOKING FORWARD

Because DU's lease at 801 expires in two years (at the end of the 2024-25 academic year), we've already kicked off the search for a new DU Syracuse location! Heartfelt thanks to Dikaia Board member **Gary Cohen '93**, who helped identify potential targets, create an initial model, and start meetings with property owners on campus. More on this topic in the coming months!

Fraternally,

**Ken Hyman '88**

President

Chapter Advisory Board

ken.hyman@gmail.com

**Mark Linnan '85**

President

DUSU Housing Corporation

mlinnan@gmail.com

## Foundation Update

### DIKAI FOUNDATION UPDATE

We completed our fiscal year (April 30) having awarded over \$20,000 to undergraduate chapter members on February 25 and raising over \$45,000 including alumni dues and donations as well as a gift from the estate of **Al Stauderman '58**. We introduced a new award this year named after Brother Stauderman that is focused on Newhouse students, as Al was a founder of the Newhouse Alumni Association in addition to being a past Dikaia president.

Please join us for our annual meeting during the 150th anniversary weekend on Saturday, October 6, at 10 a.m. at the 801 Walnut chapter house.

### HAVE YOU PAID YOUR DUES?

Alumni donations have allowed us to distribute nearly \$200,000 in grants and awards since we recolonized in 2016. All donations are welcome and encouraged. Annual "dues" are \$150, so please visit [dikaia.org](http://dikaia.org) for donation payments options.

Fraternally,

**Kevin Stein '83**

President, Dikaia Foundation

kevin.stein@truestein.com

# PRESIDENT'S PEN POINTS

## Brothers Elevate the Syracuse Chapter Experience

Welcome to the spring 2023 edition of *The Bazoo*. This semester, and this year as a whole, has seen brothers focusing on taking our great chapter to the next level. We lost more than 40 seniors last spring to graduation, and we had to recover from that quickly while adding to the groundwork they had set. In the fall, we did a tremendous job creating a new generation of DUs here at Syracuse; but as we know, spring is where the real growth happens.

### RECRUITMENT EFFORTS

Our first focus this semester was recruitment. We feel DU has the greatest strategy of recruitment on Syracuse's campus—we are the best at recruiting great men.

Recruitment Chairman **Luke Profaci '25** did an exemplary job recruiting 17 fantastic men to the new Xi class. These men have already taken initiative on what it means to be a brother at Delta Upsilon by showing interest in various leadership positions in the house, meshing perfectly with the current brotherhood, and recording the highest ever lease signing (95% plan to live in 2023/24!). I am sure you will be hearing more great things from these men soon.

### SERVING SYRACUSE CHAPTER

I would like to personally give my deepest thank-you to our spring 2023 associate member educator, **Marco Tinetto '23**. As a graduating senior, he showed his dedication to the brotherhood by serving as our AME for the second time in his tenure at DU. He quite literally personifies what we hope every new member strives to be, and I cannot thank him enough for the work that he has done and continues to do for our chapter. Upon graduation, Marco will serve as our chapter's AME alumni advisor.

Our brotherhood was strengthened through various events by Brotherhood Chairmen **Philip DiGregorio '23** and **Corey Bruno '23**. As is the case with Marco, I cannot commend these men enough for holding a leadership position in this house as graduating seniors and doing a fantastic job; it goes to show how much this house has grown top-to-bottom with our senior class staying so active.

The brothers enjoyed flag football, DU Madness bracket, casino night (hosted at 801!) and, as is tradition, our annual Cry Night. We also held our first destination formal since the '80s with a trip to Toronto, Ontario! Thank you to Special Events Chairman **Chase Connolly '23** for making that dream a reality for our brotherhood.

### LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

I have had the great privilege of serving on our executive board for basically my entire time as a brother. I have seen our young brothers grow into important leaders in our community and our chapter; they deserve the utmost credit.

Our DU international headquarters representative, Katherine Pezzella, recently visited, giving glowing reviews of our leadership and our chapter



Syracuse Chapter Xi class on Initiation Day.

as a whole. She said we've proven we can build upon our 2022 DU Sweepstakes Award to make it a yearly award thanks to our structurally sound executive board.

I think it all starts with Executive Vice President **Jacob Leisawitz '24**, who is my right-hand man on everything we have to accomplish as leaders, and I could not ask for a better person and friend to do the job with me.

### WINNING BY NOT LOSING

Syracuse Chapter has not seen many losses to prevent this semester, and that is due greatly to the job our vice president of loss prevention, **Cage Lasley '25**, has done. He has taken the initiative to make that position a proactive one rather than reactive.

We owe thanks to our vice president of internal relations, **Robert Munch '25**, and vice president of external relations, **Nathan Starkey '25**, for spearheading a successful semester of chairman positions and helping contribute to a fantastic philanthropy we hope to become our annual staple: Delta Hoopsilon. We partnered with We Rise Above the Streets and hosted a campus-wide three-point competition featuring a three-on-

three final tournament bracket. This event raised over \$1,000 for this organization.

### HOW COULD I FORGET!?

Speaking of money, I cannot thank Vice President of Finance **Riley Wall '24** enough for the great job he does for our brotherhood. He keeps the chapter running smoothly and works tirelessly to make sure we can accomplish everything we aim to do.

Vice President of Housing **Dylan Greenhouse '24** worked in partnership with DUSU Housing Corp President, **Mark Linnan '85**, to upgrade the house with new kitchen appliances, new chairs throughout the premises of 801, and a brand-new, state-of-the-art bathroom in our basement! Dylan continues to provide his time and effort for the brotherhood, and I cannot thank him enough.

Secretary **Cole Weintraub '25** was quite possibly the greatest secretary this house has ever seen; he continued to keep our executive meetings and chapters running smoothly while doing everything we asked of him and more.

### SIGNING OFF

I hold this house near to my heart for what it has done for me, and I look forward to continuing to lead us to new heights inside and out while maintaining our traditions that brothers before us established. I cannot wait to see what our future holds.



To contact me, you can call anytime with questions or to chat at (516) 497-9395, or email me at eqgunthe@syr.edu.

Dikaia,  
**Ethan Gunther '24**  
President

# Engaging Our Community

## Undergraduate Volunteer Activity



Brothers volunteering at The Samaritan Center. From left: Bailey Gorman '23, Robert Munch '25, Jason Currie '24, and Leif Vassilovski '25.

This semester, our community engagement chairman, **Justin Herzfeld '23**, spearheaded a new initiative to revitalize our volunteerism. Each week, we sent a group of up to five undergraduate brothers to The Samaritan Center. During these volunteer hours, the brothers would clean the facilities and prepare food to be provided for underprivileged people in the Syracuse community.

This weekly obligation for the house is an outstanding way to give back to the community that many of us call home. In return, the Samaritan Center was extremely grateful for our continued support and labor.

# Welcome, New Members

**Daniel Bachara** | Lothian, Md.  
**James Barker** | Harrison, N.Y.  
**Jackson Bernard** | Pawcatuck, Conn.  
**Will Broad** | McLean, Va.  
**Will Burger** | Pittsburgh, Pa.  
**Ben Catlin** | Los Angeles, Calif.  
**Paul Clark IV** | Cobleskill, N.Y.  
**Andrew Daley** | North Reading, Mass.  
**Nate Daniels** | Metuchen, N.J.  
**Henry Payne** | Montclair, N.J.  
**Daniel Fitzgerald** | Commack, N.Y.

**Liam Heinze** | North Granby, Conn.  
**Kevin Hill** | Lake Forest, Ill.  
**Jack Lucas** | New Hartford, N.Y.  
**Peter Makris** | Timonium, Md.  
**Adam Neufeld** | Skillman, N.J.  
**James Moore** | Belle Mead, N.J.  
**Will Ryan** | Chatham, N.J.  
**Neil Sagare** | Coppell, Texas  
**Isaiah Taveras** | Jackson, N.J.  
**Zach Weiss** | Warren, N.J.



Top row, from left: Danny Fitzgerald, Adam Neufeld, Kevin Hill, Peter Makris, Liam Heinze, Jackson Bernard, Neil Sagare, and Andrew Daley. Bottom row: Henry Payne, Will Ryan, Will Broad, James Moore, James Barker, Jack Lucas, Ben Catlin, and Daniel Bachara. (Not pictured: William Burger, Paul Clark IV, Nate Daniels, Isaiah Taveras, and Zach Weiss.)

## ALUMNI NEWS

**Howard Wickham '52** is still playing golf at age 92 despite facing various health issues. Howard resides in Rockville, Md.

**Larry Isaacson '55** moved to a rental home on the Eastern shore of Earleville, Md., about three miles from his son, who was an AGR at the University of Maryland. Email: lisaacson62@gmail.com

**Theodore Wright '60** lives in Gardiner, N.Y. Theodore enjoys a pint or two at Gardner Brewing Company on the weekends, which is run by his three grandchildren. Email: eatapples.wrightsfarm@gmail.com

**Moose Corcoran '65** is retired and lives on Daniel Island, S.C. He enjoys golf and volunteering at church and with other organizations. Email: corcoran@homesc.com

**David Backhurst '68** spent two years in the U.S. Army and one year of graduate school at UMass after graduating from Syracuse. David was a teacher for 43 years and coached soccer at University Liggett School in Grosse Pointe Woods, Mich. He now drives a school bus, enjoys travel, and does volunteer work. David lives in Grosse Point Park and he has been married for 54 years. Email: dbackhurst43@gmail.com

**Geff Ries '70** and his wife of 50+ years, Suzanne, sold their manufacturing business in 2019 that produced reusable plastic products for the food service and houseware industries. Geff is chairman of Ambler Savings Bank. He has three married sons

and seven grandchildren ranging in ages from 2-19. Geff resides in Spring House, Pa. Email: gries@riesventures.com

**Craig Barber '71** is retired, living happily with wife Rosemarie in The Villages, Fla. He enjoys golf and pickleball with friends, including five DU alumni brothers. Email: craigeb Barber@gmail.com

**Dennis Thorn '71** still resides and practices law in Chicago, Ill. Dennis recently retired from the board of The Night Ministry after 16 years, which is a nonprofit organization that provides services to homeless young adults like short-term and transitional housing, street medicine, and other accommodations. Email: thornlaw@aol.com

**Brian Burns '85** lives in Oneonta, N.Y. He is a chairman and on the board of directors for the Otsego County Supreme Court Law Library and an acting chairman and board of directors member for the Helios Hospice Foundation. Brian is also in the third department of the NYS Appellate Division Supreme Court, and he is on the advisory committee for the Office of Attorneys for Children. Email: bburns@courts.state.ny.us

**Mark "Minty" Linnan '85** lives in Riverside, Conn., with his wife, Janice, and Guinness the dog. He enjoys staying involved with Delta Upsilon, recognizing the great group of undergraduate brothers and a solid alumni network. Email: mlinnan@gmail.com

# Delta Upsilon Syracuse 150th Reunion

October 6-8, 2023

**Friday night:** Welcome reception at chapter house followed by a gathering at Faegan's.

**Saturday morning:** Dikaia Board meeting (all welcome).

**Saturday afternoon:** Golf tournament at Drumlins and/or DU scavenger hunt in park.

**Saturday night:** 150th anniversary gala celebration (location TBD).

Late night fun at Faegan's.

**Sunday morning:** Brunch.

## Accommodations

Seventy-five rooms at the Collegian hotel have been blocked off for October 6 and 7! There is a two-night minimum (Friday and Saturday night).

Demand has been great, so rooms with only single king beds remain. If you need a room with two doubles, we suggest you book directly at the Collegian website. If you would like to look into other accommodations, there are other hotels and affordable Airbnbs in the area.

To RSVP and book a room, please visit [dusyracuse.com/150](http://dusyracuse.com/150) or scan the QR code.



Delta Upsilon  
Syracuse University  
P.O. Box 442100  
Lawrence, KS 66044-2100

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## DU HELPED ME FIND MY WAY

### Why Mike Whalen '87 Stays Devoted to the Brotherhood

**B**rotherhood is forever. That is a phrase **Mike Whalen '87** has lived by ever since he saw Delta Upsilon brothers having a great time as undergraduates and wanted to be a part of the experience. Since then, Mike has remained loyal to DU throughout his adult years.

#### COLLEGE LIFE

"Freshman year, our dorm floor—Brewster 5—made it to the all-university intramural softball championship game against Delta Upsilon," Mike said. Not only did DU win that championship, but Mike noticed brothers enjoying the moment together and wanted the same fraternal connections.

From the gold fish bowl at the pinning ceremony, a victorious pledge prank and initiation at Hendricks Chapel to the Great Chicken Caper and house life at 711 Comstock, Mike's DU memories have resonated for decades.

#### CAREER IN LAW

Mike has been with Goodwin Procter, an Am Law 15 firm, his entire 25-year legal career. Mike leads the Fintech practice at his firm. Extemporaneous speaking ability is a trait of a good lawyer and Mike credits shooting the breeze with guys at the House, speaking at Chapter, and going back and forth at Hash during Rush as helping him develop this skill.

"Don't go to law school unless you are willing to put in the work to be in the top 10% of your class; don't go because your dad or uncle is a lawyer, or you like a cool lawyer in a Netflix show. Go because you want to be a great lawyer."

#### STAYING DEVOTED TO DU

Mike's Delta Upsilon experience helped him prepare for life after college, and he is proud to pay it forward for



***You have to give back. It's all about helping the guys who come behind you do better than you. If you're not reaching back to help a young guy, then you're not helping build a legacy.***

today's undergraduate members. Helping with the chapter's comeback and serving on the Dikaia Board as secretary, Mike is committed to supporting the ever-growing legacy of the Syracuse Chapter.

"There's a trust and satisfaction being with the brotherhood that you can't get with anyone else because of all the shared experiences, and it feels really good keeping it going."

Mike points to The Ray Event in 2015 at O'Flanagan's in New York City as the catalyst to the Syracuse Chapter's comeback and changing his life. One hundred brothers came together to honor Ray Ranellucci '89 and raise money for the Syracuse comeback. Out of The Ray Event Mike likes to say: "You can't beat 100 DUs standing together - it's impossible."

And Mike met his wife, Christina, at The Ray Event. They enjoy life in their beach community of Wilmington, North Carolina. **Rick Holland '81** often says your brothers are going to be the best man at your wedding, godfather to your children, and pall bearer at your funeral. Your brothers are going to be there for every big moment in your life. Well, add to the list that you could very well meet your wife at a DU event.

Mike has a deep appreciation for the brothers who helped him find his way and feels very strongly about giving back.

"You have to give back. It's all about helping the guys who come behind you do better than you. If you're not reaching back to help a young guy, then you're not helping build a legacy."

You can connect with Mike at [mwhalen@goodwinlaw.com](mailto:mwhalen@goodwinlaw.com) or (703) 629-1397.