

# the epsilon reporter

A publication of the Epsilon Chapter of  
St. Anthony Hall at Trinity College

HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT

FEBRUARY 2002

## The Year In Review: An Excellent Commitment

Just after our November board meeting, several of us had drinks together at the Tennis & Racquet Club in Boston and discussed the state of the Hall, rushing at the Trinity campus, and pledging at the Hall. We discussed the fact that other fraternity and sorority rushes at Trinity feature pong, shaving-cream-smearing contests and cute skits, pushing each other down stairs, etc. On campus, however, the Hall's rush is considered a serious thing—get-togethers where people talk and get to know each other; the fun comes later.

Once pledging gets under way, we sometimes lose a few who realize the significance of the commitment required to this immediate group of people, to the larger band of brothers, to the institution, to our values, and to our traditions. Sarah Freivogel, E'99, recounted the challenges she had as pledgemaster a couple of years ago, keeping the largest recent group of pledges, 22, together and not losing one from the beginning to the end. (I have visions of Kubrick's *Full Metal Jacket* Marine training.)

We know the rewards and experiences that come from that commitment: the camaraderie, chapter room meetings, eating at Ogilby, a place to call and feel at home while at Trinity, friendships and adventures, faculty dinners, Thursday Night Club (not to mention the infamous "5:40 Club"), wild parties, and a deep connection to a rich history that goes back to 1851 at Trinity, across into the other chapters, and back into the Egyptian desert well over 1,500 years ago. The commitment is big, the rewards bigger.

As every year before it, 2001 was a year of transitions, traditions, and commitments. There were the usual transitions at the undergraduate level as new brothers joined and assumed leadership while older brothers graduated. On this, I am pleased to quote David Dangremond, E'97, from some of this year's minutes in which he expressed "excellent comfort and satisfac-

tion with the undergraduate efforts and performance."

There were also transitions on the board particular with the sudden and tragic passing of our past president and treasurer, Wawa Wood, to pancreatic cancer in September. Past president Dave Guild, E'81, immediately rose to the occasion and became our new treasurer. John Fiske, E'84, became secretary, and Jim Dormer, E'87, Amanda Woods, E'91, and Josiah Hornblower, E'97, joined the board.

There were transitions in the Eating Club, as it was officially incorporated as a stand-alone entity, enabling us to update our ever-vague 1941 contract with Trinity. And, finally, there was the transition at the chapter hall as we finished the third phase of our five-phase renovation: the construction of a new downstairs barroom entrance and the replacement of the scary, tiny interior stairway as well as the unsightly, external fire escape. The undergraduates have already enjoyed immediate benefits from these efforts.

The year was also one of traditions: lively LDs, the return of the Clement Lecture, featuring the Capital Steps comedy singing group, faculty lectures and dinners, the annual pledge Homecoming "tent" ("see it to believe it"), undergraduate research into our history, including the restoration of neglected paintings and artifacts, approval of a \$20,000 SAEF grant for a modern archiving system, and active undergraduate participation in the Pipes, the *Tripod*, the yearbook, and on numerous varsity sports teams, including crew, basketball, and volleyball.

The year was also marked by commitments particular to the enormous undertaking of the building's renovations and

associated capital campaign. To date, we've raised \$1.1 million through significant leadership gifts of \$10,000 to \$150,000 each. Our fundraising plan has two phases, with our current first phase focused on leadership gifts. We are still working to finalize an additional \$400,000-\$500,000 in leadership-level gifts. We will then canvass each of you to close the gap.

We are deeply grateful to the initial group of extremely committed brothers who have been approached and who have given generously to date and to the just-as-committed brothers who are helping with the campaign effort as hosts of receptions and solicitors—each and every one, a true Saint. In particular, thanks go to Bros. John Harrison, E'67, Nick Booth, E'68, Don Callaghan, E'66, and Stephen Lockton, E'62, hosts of the New York, Boston, Philadelphia, and

*(continued on page two)*

*We finished the third phase of our five-phase renovation: the construction of a new downstairs barroom entrance and the replacement of the scary, tiny interior stairway as well as the unsightly, external fire escape.*



*Epsilon lost one of its most prominent members, "Wawa" Wood, this past fall. See the story on page two.*

## William D. "Wawa" Wood, E'60

September 10, 1939 - September 30, 2001

With great sadness we report the passing of our dear foundation board member Bro. William D. "Wawa" Wood, of pancreatic cancer on September 30. Those of us who were fortunate to know him knew "Wawa" as a businessman, sportsman, fund-raiser, and devoted brother of the Epsilon Chapter of St. Anthony Hall.

At this sad time, however, we also wish to celebrate his life. Born in Philadelphia, Bro. Wood was raised outside the city in Wawa, Pennsylvania. He came by the moniker "Wawa" during his teenage years while attending St. Paul's School in New Hampshire and was known by it even to his grandchildren and professional associates. He graduated from

Trinity College in 1962 with a BA in Spanish. During his time as a student, he played football for the college.

His professional experience ranged from working for the Killington ski area for four years to operating a building wholesale and retail supply business for 14 years to running William D. Wood Real Estate Appraisals, which he founded in 1981.

But "Wawa" was also a volunteer at heart. He served St. Anthony Hall Foundation, Inc., as president (in 1998), as treasurer, an office he held until his death, and as co-chair of the Campaign to Continue the Legacy. In addition to his loyal service to Epsilon, he was a past president of Vermont Ducks Unlimited and the

Rotary Club, served as a board member of the Woodstock Health Center, and helped the Woodstock (Vermont) town library raise \$1.5 million for renovations. Also interested in youth, he was instrumental in creating a youth hockey and local ice hockey rink and also coached little league baseball.

Bro. Wood was an exemplary member of St. Anthony Hall. We extend our sympathies to his family and the many close friends he left behind. The foundation has established a memorial fund in his name for the purpose of hanging two chandeliers that "Wawa" donated to the Hall from the Woodstock Library renovation efforts. The chandeliers will be hung at the Epsilon Chapter in his honor.

## Despite Changing World, Epsilon Marches Boldly On

In recent days, Epsilon has seen the most dramatic change in its recorded history. The much-anticipated renovations have begun, and the brotherhood could not be more pleased. The new turret rises each day and proves to be a worthy addition to our illustrious building. Many a brother can be seen each day watching the construction proceed, obviously understanding that the observation of such lofty events supersede those entailed in the drudgery of classes and homework.

Today the internal steel beams were lifted via crane into the already erected infrastructure of the new turret. In conversation with a worker I learned that the cone-shaped roof to the new side entrance, or "witch's hat," as he coined it, will be built on the ground and then lifted into place by the crane—quite

extraordinary.

Although the construction changes the rear and the side entrance, the heart of our Hall remains very much the same. Our active brothers have zealously continued our most hallowed traditions and upheld our literary duties. Much like the construction, which maintains the building's original integrity, we have been able to retain our fraternity's original integrity amidst a world of change.

The brotherhood remains thoroughly involved in all parts of the Trinity campus. Brothers participate in many sports, including soccer, lacrosse, field hockey, volleyball, swimming, rugby, water polo, and ice hockey. As well, we have brothers in several singing groups, like After Dark, and organizations, including the Boys and Girls Club,

which tutors local school children. We have just taken 11 budding pledges into our ranks—nine men and two women who we hope will continue the traditions that have prospered for so many years.

In all ways Epsilon continues to thrive. In the recent 1,2,3 meeting, we proved to be the most flourishing and well-run chapter. Many of the others sought us out for advice. Although our world has changed dramatically, especially as of late, Epsilon continues on, breathing new life into our ancient ideals. We thank all those who have contributed to the foundation and hope that many alumni will come by and say hello.

C. Thayer Fox, E'00

## The Year In Review: An Excellent Commitment

(continued from page one)  
Greenwich receptions.

Our active and excellent foundation board has also shown much commitment. David "Always-on-line" Beers, E'75, and Bill Peelle Jr., E'68, have overseen the design and construction, working closely with the masons, the contractors, Smith Edwards Architects, the undergraduates, the City of Hartford, and the college throughout the summer and fall. Bill Peelle's tireless campaign work never stops.

Thom Back, E'96, our current vice president and former secretary, has been working hard with Han Wong, E'00, to establish a Web site (coming very soon) and has obtained an historic fence from

the college (for the part of our land adjacent to AD and Allen Place). Alexandra Larson Ruhmann, E'92, is back as the *Epsilon Reporter's* editor.

It's been an excellent year for the Hall, and 2002 will be another. In closing, I encourage any of you who haven't paid your foundation dues yet to do so and join. It's only \$50 a year, tax-deductible, and an important cause. The foundation is the graduate organization of the St. Anthony Hall Epsilon Chapter. The annual budget is approximately \$20,000-\$25,000 and is fully funded by your generosity. The budget primarily covers the production and mailing cost of our biannual newsletter, *The Epsilon Reporter*, and ongoing building maintenance and insurance—an

excellent commitment.

Please note that your dues and endowment contributions to St. Anthony Hall Foundation should not be confused with contributions to St. Anthony Hall (our national fraternity organization), the St. Anthony Educational Foundation, Inc. (our national educational grant organization, a.k.a. SAEF), or the Campaign to Continue the Legacy (our once-in-a-lifetime Epsilon chapter hall renovation effort). Please send them to St. Anthony Hall Foundation, Inc., P.O. Box 876, Ithaca, NY 14851-0876. Call 888/580-9349 if you have any questions.

Jamie Hudson, E'78  
Corporation President

# Meet The Seniors And Juniors Of The Epsilon Chapter

*The Trinity class of 2002 at St. Anthony Hall has pledged over four semesters. Its members pride themselves on bringing back history and bringing Epsilon into a new era. The class comprises 16 brothers from distinct walks of life with unique interests. They are as follows.*

**Katherine Bennett, E'99**, is an art history major from London, England. She played on the volleyball team for the first time in the fall.

**James Cabot, E'99**, a history major from Maine, served as president last fall and is currently the captain of the crew team.

**Austin Campriello, E'99**, graduated in December. He is currently a pledgemaster and is from New York.

**William Dick, E'99**, currently the president of the Hall, is a history major from Brookline, Massachusetts.

**Anson Frelinghuysen, E'99**, was welcomed back to the brotherhood after a year away. He is a philosophy major from New York, New York.

**Stuart Brooks Huston, E'99**, is a history major from Tennessee. He was president of the Hall last spring.

**Douglas Lake, E'99**, is an economics major from Bronxville, New York. He is a rower, and when the weather is nice he can be seen returning from a day of surfing.

**Alissa LeViness, E'99**, is an English literature major from New York, New York. She is an avid reader and an excellent writer.

**Roy Ostrom, E'99**, is an economics major from New Jersey. Roy studied at the London School of Economics this past summer.

**Nathaniel Silver, E'99**, is an art history major who worked in Sicily last summer on an archaeological dig.

**Benjamin Davis, E'00**, is a political science major who proudly believes in non-violence and has attended many of the controversial protests of the last year.

**Kristin A. Hagan, E'00**, is an economics and computer science double major from San Francisco, California, and is an All-New England volleyball player.

**George McLean, E'00**, is an economics major from London, England. He is currently the treasurer and is assisting the coaches of the crew team.

**Rachel Piazza, E'00**, is an American studies major who moved to New York City last summer. She is an excellent disc jockey and has a concentration in drum and bass.

**James "Ashe" Reardon, E'00**, is currently in New York City working on the Mike Bloomberg mayoral campaign.

**Han Wong, E'00**, our resident mechanic, is an English major from Alabama.

*The Trinity class of 2003 has had a unique effect on St. Anthony Hall since the first pledge class entered in the fall of 2000. This class comprises 27 brothers, 20 of whom pledged in the fall and seven of whom pledged in the following spring. The class comprises philoso-*

*phers and athletes, among others, and has had an impact on all aspects of the Hall because of its numbers and its strength of character. Here is a little insight into each of these brothers.*

**Kay Bassen, E'00**, is from Baldwin, New York. She is a history major with a focus on British history.

**Talbot Beck, E'00**, was abroad last semester in Australia.

**Katelyn Bowman, E'00**, was abroad last semester in Athens, Greece.

**Tyler Boynton, E'00**, is a history major from Key West, Florida. He loves the beach and surfing.

**Alissa Crevier, E'00**, is an art history major from Providence, Rhode Island.

**Caroline Cummings, E'00**, is abroad this semester and is attending school in London.

**Richard Dale III, E'00**, is an economics major and enjoys swimming. The head steward of the eating club for his second semester, he is from West Hartford, Connecticut.

**C. Thayer Fox, E'00**, from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, is a philosophy major, an avid reader, and an eccentric thinker.

**Charles Fox, E'00**, from Wayzata, Minnesota, is a history major. He enjoys sailing and hunting.

**Mike Getz, E'00**, was abroad last semester at the Trinity Rome campus.

**Joseph Giallanella, E'00**, was abroad last semester, relaxing on the beaches of sunny Australia.

**Emily Goldfrank, E'00**, is a theater and dance major who enjoys acting and hopes to pursue it further. She is from New York, New York.

**Charles Hance, E'00**, was raised in Potteryville, New Jersey. He is a political science major and enjoys debates and cooking.

**Rodrigo Jimenez, E'00**, was born in Guatemala City, Guatemala, where he lived until attending boarding school in the United States. Rodrigo's major is history. For extracurricular activity he participates in intramural soccer and sword fighting, where he is known for his quick footwork.

**Maria Lingnau, E'00**, was abroad last semester in Germany.

**Nicholas Lombardi, E'00**, is a political science major with a minor in the environment and human values. He plays for the Trinity soccer team, for which he is an excellent midfielder player. Nicholas is from New Boston, New Hampshire.

**William Page, E'00**, is an English major from New York City. He is a skilled table tennis player and works out regularly in the gym.

**Nicholas Rafferty, E'00**, was abroad last semester in Vienna, Austria.

**Chris Rorer, E'00**, is a swimmer and great athlete from Pennsylvania.

**William Seifert, E'00**, was abroad in Rome, Italy.

**Richard Bierbaum, E'01**, is an art history

major who enjoys poetry and who prides himself on his ability to play cowboy. Richard is from Bronxville, New York.

**Amy Brown, E'01**, attended school in Australia for the semester.

**Amanda Gifford, E'01**, is attending school in Australia.

**Aaron Gould, E'01**, is from West Hartford, Connecticut. He is a history major who enjoys tennis and picnics.

**Daphne Konstantinides, E'01**, is from Great Neck, New York, and is a double major in philosophy and political science.

**James Schiff, E'01**, is a history major from Oyster Bay, New York. He is an avid golfer who enjoys working on his game during his free time.

**Nicholas Willoughby, E'01**, is an economics major from Columbus, Ohio. He is a nihilist philosopher at heart.

Y.I.T.B.,

Nicholas Luke Willoughby, E'01

Kristin Ashley Hagan, E'00

## A Note Of Appreciation...

When I attended last spring's presentation in New York City for the construction of the Hall, I was asked how the brotherhood feels regarding the renovations. Again, as I did at that time, I would like to express my thanks to those of you who have contributed to the renovation campaign, through both their time and their monetary contributions. Today, as I look out my window from High Rise, I see and hear the work in progress. It is going quite smoothly, and the turret is almost completed. As a brotherhood we are anxiously awaiting the completion of Phase I.

As Bro. Fox has written in another article, we see the progress daily and attempt to keep things running normally. So far the work is amazing, and there seem to be no problems. Then again I do not live in Ogilby and am not awakened every morning to incessant hammering and the noise of beams being lifted.

If you would like any information about the renovations, please do not hesitate to get in touch with William Peelle (860/275-0734, w; 860/313-8010, h; e-mail: Wpeellejr@aol.com). If you would like any updates about the state of the Hall, please feel free to get in touch with me (Kristin.hagan@mail.trincoll.edu).

Kristin A. Hagan, E'00

# The Epsilon Chapter Of St. Anthony Hall Watches

## “CONSTRUCTION-SPOTTING”: EPSILON BROTHERS TAKE ENJOYMENT IN

It is St. Anthony Hall’s answer to the British hobby of trainspotting—“construction-spotting.” During the sunny, heady days of late September, groups of brothers would eagerly watch from Ogilby as a wonderful new turret arose before our eyes. While the external work of erecting walls has largely given way to less spectator-friendly interior work, the undergraduates have lost none of their enthusiasm for the project and are eager to see it through to completion. Quite simply, this will



be a wonderful addition to our historic and beloved chapter house.

“This is an exciting time for the Hall,” says senior Nat Silver, E’99. “It has been a great

experience to watch the turret arise before our eyes this semester,” he adds. Since Bro. Silver’s bedroom faces the construction site, he both sees and hears the work every morning when he wakes up.

With the old c.1878 staircase removed and the new stairway fully operational between the basement and the main floor, access between the floors is both easier and safer. While the steep, antiquated stairway had terrific character, the days of worrying about slipping and falling down the stairs have, thankfully, passed.

The new stairwell has given the public areas of the building an increased feeling of roominess, which many undergraduate brothers have commented on. “The new landings that are part of the construction are good spaces for conversation during social events,” comments junior Charlie Fox, E’00.

The initial signs that architect Jared Edwards’ design will fit into the unique and historic architecture of our chapter house are extremely promising. In both size and form the new rear, side entrance tucks neatly into the southeast corner of the existing structure. The new turret adds a further element to a dramatic and mysterious roofline.

“They have done a terrific job of integrat-



ing the addition into both the form and spirit of the original building,” says Silver, an art history major who has done coursework with professor Kathleen Curran, an honorary brother, member of the department of art history, and expert on Josiah Cleveland Cady, E’1856, who was consulted on the plans.

“The construction captures the architectural feeling of the original building,” adds William Dick, E’99, who is the current presi-

## ARCHITECT AND ALUMNI LEADERS TAKE NOTE OF IN

Although the new entrance’s footprint (12’ x 25’) is somewhat smaller than a regulation squash court (18.5’ x 32’ U.S. / 26’ x 32’ international), there are many interesting architectural and construction details worth sharing.

The new stairway addition, framed with steel columns and load-bearing concrete block and granite walls, has very wide landings and steps, allowing easy access up and down and ample room for entering and leaving when the Hall is crowded. The entrance door of clear, annealed, “high-strength,” glass faces south and will bring lots of daylight into the stair interior, enhancing the entranceway and outside paved terrace. A deep, broad, oak canopy roof over the door will keep it in shadow

and provide shelter from the elements. The interior public stairway will have a colorful, durable, and dramatic appearance, adding to the entrance experience as well as the initial impact of the interior.

At the first-floor landing, there will be a brick-color door that can be locked to restrict first-floor access during basement-only parties. The original wooden stair balustrade and screen in the first-floor entrance hall will eventually be re-installed, providing the historically correct appearance. In the stairway, large brick-color tiles with matching grout on the floors and stair treads will establish a strong earth tone. These terra-cotta tiles (tiles of unglazed, fired clay), reintroduced in 19th-century Europe, were extensively used in Gothic

Revival architecture, making them suitable for this installation.

The new interior south and east stairway walls will be coated with a durable textured plaster, matched to the floor color. The interior north and west walls will be the exposed original outside granite walls. A detail worth mentioning here is the reuse of original granite, to in-fill the south library window, which was salvaged when the wall was cut open for the new first-floor door. The original stained glass window will be eventually reinstalled in the library as an elegant “cabinet door” to protect books and historic Hall memorabilia in a display niche. In the stairway, subdued “up-lighting” will be used to create an overall “gloomy” effect; a few original wrought-iron light fixtures from the

# s With Enthusiasm The Progress Of Renovations

## N WATCHING PROGRESS ON HOUSE, IN RESULTING EVERYDAY BENEFITS

dent of our organization. "I am excited to see the results," he adds, "as it strengthens the power of the original building."

During a November 2 faculty formal dinner, members of both the faculty and the administration, including Dr. Sharon Herzberger, vice president for student services, and professor Alden Gordon, E'67, were excited to tour the construction site and hear undergraduate brothers describe both the current work and the envisioned Phase II of the project.

There has been some murmuring and grumbling among the undergraduates over predictable problems, such as the loss of parking spaces, noise during the morning, and access to the building. At times, the parking lot on the north side of the building has been partially closed because of construction team needs.

"The damn drills wake me up every morning," adds senior Doug Lake, E'99, whose room faces the site.

Additionally, we were unable to hold the always popular Hal-

loween and Christmas parties because of the work. Other than these two losses, however, access to the building has been remarkably uninhibited, and the undergraduates have been able to enjoy fully both Wednesday night festivities and smaller weekend social events. In any case, these minor inconveniences are a small price to pay for what will be a fine addition to our chapter house.



Richard Eastland, E'97, who has frequently been in Hartford on business this year, says that from the perspective of a young alum the work is extremely exciting. "I cannot wait to see the mothership fully operational," he adds.

Without a doubt the expansion will greatly enhance our building. Aesthetically, it gives every indication of integrating well into the existing structure. Practically, it will improve access, comfort, and safety for the undergraduates. Perhaps best of all, the new turret will further add to the intangible and mysterious qualities of our chapter house. As senior George McLean, E'00, says, "I cannot wait to begin denying the existence of our new turret to the general public."

James E. Cabot, E'99  
S. Brooks Huston, E'99

## INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT THE HALL'S NEW ENTRANCE

living room and library will eventually be relocated into the stairway, integrating old with new.

On the exterior, the addition's new granite facing has been carefully selected through a painstaking process in order to match the Hall's existing granite. Multiple samples from over six quarries were considered. Some of these samples appeared to match well until it rained and their color and appearance became quite different. As a test, we cut open a piece of original granite to evaluate both its "dry and wet" colors and to compare them to the surface discoloration due to almost 125 years of exposure to the atmosphere, changing seasons, and pollution. The granite selection also encompassed each quarry's ability to finish the

stone to match the Hall's existing combination of "rough cut/quarry face" (complete with "wedge" marks) and "honed/fine-chiseled face" surfaces. The final granite selection has been quarried and cut and is now being delivered to the site for installation.

The new addition's structural granite walls are, in fact, similar to the Hall's existing exterior construction. Interestingly, early in the renovation process we discovered that behind the Hall's original 6"-12" granite veneer exterior is 12"-24" brick-bearing wall construction with an air pocket between the brick and granite. Also notable, when excavating for the new addition's foundations, we discovered that the existing granite veneer extended only to ground level. All of the walls below grade appear to be solid

brick—no doubt a cost-saving measure employed back in 1878.

To conclude this description of the new entrance and stairway, let's consider its roof and turret, which will be fabricated of copper and slate. The selected material is Virginia Buckingham slate from the same slate quarry as the recent 1999 Hall replacement roof. Last, but not least, the new turret will be topped with a brass Tau cross wind vane and counterweight, fashioned after the designs of William Burgess's wind vanes originally on Northam Tower.

Stay tuned for more.

Jared I. Edwards, FAIA, Architect  
David Beers, E'75  
Jamie Hudson, E'78

# Twenty Years With THE TOUCH OF TIME

## My Adventures With The Ghost Of Robert H. Coleman (E'1873) And His Continuing Legacy Today

By **Richard E. "Nick" Noble (E'77)**

Robert Habersham Coleman (1856-1930) was a great man in his time. Today, very few people remember him. His descendants, of course, and the occasional Coleman genealogist, would recognize his name. Perhaps they would even be familiar with at



Nick Noble, E'77

least the dramatic outline of his life. There are still some hardy souls at the Lebanon County Historical Society in Pennsylvania who know of Bob Coleman. But only at the Epsilon Chapter of the Fraternity of Delta Psi—St. Anthony Hall at Trinity College in Hartford, Connecticut—is Coleman's life required study. Indeed, the chapter would not be where it is were it not for Bro. Coleman. His portrait is there, and a reading of his biography is mandatory for incoming pledges. A biography, I must add, which I wrote some 20 years ago. I owe any immortality I may ever have to the legend and the legacy of Robert H. Coleman.

I arrived on the campus of Trinity College in Hartford, Connecticut, sometime in September of 1976, a few days late, as I remember it, which in many ways set the tone for my collegiate experience. It was a very busy freshman year. In addition to the inevitable classes, I had auditioned for and been accepted into the Trinity Pipes, the oldest of the college's singing groups. The Pipes had been started by four Epsilon brothers in the 1930s, and for many years thrived as a barbershop-style octet. By the mid-'60s, however, it had transformed itself into a folk-pop group with acoustic guitars and a stand-up bass—sort of a junior New Christy Minstrels—and with the arrival of women at Trinity it immediately became a coed group with 10 to 12 members. This was, then, the kind of group I became a part of as a freshman, and it was through the Pipes that I first came to know the brothers of St. Anthony Hall (several Pipes were Epsilon brothers, a tradition continued down from the group's founding). It was not through these new friends and future brethren, however, that I first discovered the story of Robert Coleman. That I managed all on my own.

My adventures with Bob Coleman's ghost began in the spring of 1977, toward the end of my freshman year. I was at least four months away from pledging the Hall, and it was a good six or seven months before I would be initiated as a brother in Delta Psi. I am addicted to reading, and I loved to prowl the stacks of Trinity's library looking for a fix. One afternoon, I came across a book entitled *The History of Trinity College* by Glenn Weaver. Curious, I started flipping through it, stopping from time to time to read more carefully when something caught

my eye. It was on page 214 that, my attention attracted by a photo of the Epsilon chapter house (my fellow Pipes had invited me there for a party on more than one occasion), I first read a brief summary of Robert Coleman's unique story: of "Trinity's genial benefactor" who "lost his fortune" and subsequently "placed all his worldly goods in a few suitcases, which he put into a carriage, and drove away from his Cornwall mansion, never to return...From 1893 until his death in 1930, he lived in seclusion at Saranac Lake, New York."

From then on, my imagination was haunted by Coleman's ghost. That autumn, as a pledge to Bob Coleman's fraternity, I found myself returning to Weaver's words, and I decided that more research was in order. Conversations with Bro. John Mason produced some interesting background. Then, while exploring the collection of Trinity archivist Peter Knapp, I came across some gems: correspondence from Coleman to Trinity from very late in his life, during his period of "seclusion." I also questioned Glenn Weaver, the author of the Trinity history and later a professor of mine, to gain some further insight. The files at the St. Anthony chapter house were also revealing. Twice I sat down and attempted to start a Coleman biography. Both times I was frustrated in my attempt to provide some greater historical justification and significance to Coleman's life. I could not be content with simply telling a dramatic story.

Then, during my first year of graduate work at Trinity, I took a course in American business with history professor Ted Sloan, himself a Delta Psi brother from the 1960s. (A Yale grad, he had not been part of the Sigma Chapter; rather, he was initiated as an Epsilon brother in the mid-'60s while a young professor, at a time when the college insisted each fraternity have a faculty adviser and the folks at St. A insisted that any such adviser had to be a brother). It was in Dr. Sloan's course that I realized the Gilded Age itself would provide the perfect framework for Robert H. Coleman's story. His life of extremes (37 years an enthusiastic success, 37 years of lonely seclusion) was remarkably representative of the age of extremes in which he lived. With this in mind, I proposed to Dr. Sloan that I write a Coleman biography for my master's thesis, and he concurred.

That was the easy part. It took the better part of half a year to collect all the scattered research I had been doing on and off as an undergraduate. Then I dug even deeper, discovering in a Hartford library the scrapbook of one Mary Morris, which she called her

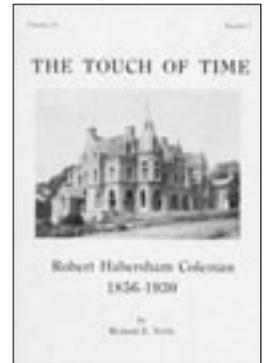
"Social Index." In it was a detailed description of Bob Coleman's first wedding, to the ill-fated Lillie Clark. Mrs. Morris had a great deal about young Bob Coleman in her index. I also visited 130 Washington Street in Hartford, the site of that same wedding more than a century before. At the Epsilon chapter house, I came across a long-lost photo of a young Robert Coleman taken while on his honeymoon. Still, the beginning of his story and the place of both his greatest success and his ultimate failure was in Pennsylvania, and I felt I needed to get there. The problem was that I could not afford such an extended research trip.

To the rescue came the St. Anthony Educational Foundation, which provided the funds that enabled the completion of the research portion of my thesis. I had a wonderful visit with the folks at the Lebanon County Historical Society. They were generous with their time, their collection, and their advice, and I returned to Hartford to begin writing.

Bob Coleman's story, summarized briefly, is a simple one. Born into great wealth, the scion of a prominent Pennsylvania iron and steel family, Robert Habersham Coleman attended Trinity College when it was at its original location, the

site of the current Connecticut capital building. There he joined the Epsilon Chapter of the Fraternity of Delta Psi (initiated in October 1873), and he met and married the young daughter of a local clergyman. Upon graduation, he returned home to take charge of the family business. When Trinity was moved to its present location the following year, he had a new Epsilon chapter house designed, built, and outfitted entirely at his expense. For his generosity, the brethren voted unanimously to keep Bob Coleman on the active chapter rolls for the rest of his life.

Much of the Coleman biography was written at the Epsilon chapter house on Summit Street in Hartford. The building, Coleman's last and most enduring legacy, was a constant source of inspiration. The place that he built and the fraternity that he so dearly loved pro-



Robert Coleman, age 24, taken in Paris sometime early in 1880. (page 43 of THE TOUCH OF TIME)

(continued on next page)

## Epsilon Receives Award, Six SAEF Grants

At the G.C. in Providence in January, Epsilon was the proud winner of the annual Trinity Bowl for outstanding community service. A big factor in Epsilon's win was the Hall's annual Halloween community haunted house, a neighborhood event that rivals any production at Disney World or Universal Studios and so spooky that some of the less adventurous kids are too afraid to enter the Hall's doors. Another big factor behind Epsilon's win is the ongoing volunteer tutoring efforts of undergraduate brothers at the Boys and Girls Clubs.

In addition to the G.C.'s Community Service Award, this past year the undergraduates showed much enthusiasm in writing grants to the St. Anthony Educational Foundation. Six were submitted and thoroughly supported by all of the undergraduate Hall brothers.

Bro. Alissa LeViness's dedicated community service involvement at the Trinity College Child Care Center and Hartford elementary schools prompted the idea for her grant. Painfully aware of the need for computer equipment and educational software for these children's education, Alissa combined the strengths and influence of St. Anthony Hall and IMANI, Trinity's multicultural, non-Greek organization. Together these two organizations held a fundraising

party, attended by Trinity students, to raise the needed funds. The money received from SAEF, along with the proceeds of the party, raised \$2,250. The equipment and software that was purchased was given to the Child Care Center and Hartford elementary schools.

Bro. Joseph Giallanella acted on his concern for the cost of pledging and joining the Hall. Joe wanted no Trinity student to feel inhibited by joining the Hall, especially because of finances. His grant proposal aimed at establishing a permanent fund to decrease the dues of those who pledge and join the Hall who would not otherwise feel comfortable joining. Never in the future should anyone who possesses the high standards of character that the Hall seeks and cherishes feel excluded from the Hall because of finances. Due to the nature of this grant, the new scholarship committee will eventually take it under consideration.

In a joint grant, Bro. Ashe Reardon and I collaborated our passion and love of the historical documents held in the heart of the Hall. This extensive four-part grant proposal included the plans and researched the means for the complete reorganization and preservation of the Hall's historical documents, which date back to 1849. Part one includes converting the archive

room into an office. Part two includes constructing a safe and appropriate document filing and storage system. Part three includes transferring the documents to microfilm to record and document them. Part four includes purchasing computer equipment and software to create and support an online database by which Hall brothers can access past and present documents. This will also allow brothers holding worthy positions to take care of administrative business and all brothers to compose LDs in a safe, private place.

The chapter was presented with a \$20,000 matching challenge for this proposal, which the St. Anthony Hall Foundation gladly matched.

Bro. Anson Frelinghuysen will succeed me to see the project to its completion. We hope that in the next few years the Epsilon Chapter will see its historical documents safely stored.

At this year's G.C. in Providence, three other Epsilon-related SAEF grants were approved. Bros. Nat Silver, Brooks Huston, and Jim Dormer secured \$5,000 to restore important art and artifacts at the Hall, including the portrait of Bro. Coleman. Bro. Coley Dale received a grant for \$1,870 to cover costs related to a presentation on the effects of capitalism on rural and urban areas in China. Lastly, Nicholas Lombardi was awarded \$1,924 for his research project in New Zealand.

Liisa Jackson, E'98

## The Ghost Of Robert Coleman

(continued from previous page)

vided me with insight and perspective. At the time, I felt as though his ghost were there with me, guiding my hand when it faltered and focusing my attention when it wandered.

Tragedy struck young Bob Coleman even while the new chapter house was being built. His new wife died suddenly, and to assuage his grief Coleman threw himself into his work. He increased his already substantial fortune, expanded his business influence, and ultimately remarried and raised a family. Still, he never forgot Trinity and St. Anthony. Time and again he would assist both with funds and with counsel. Frequently, he would invite the active Epsilon brothers (and once the entire Trinity campus) to his Pennsylvania estate. It was clear to all that Bob Coleman was an unforgettable and extremely loyal and generous man.

Then, in the panic of 1893, Bob Coleman lost everything. His business empire collapsed, his fortune vanished, and his prospects disintegrated. This sudden calamity, coupled with his wife's diagnosis of tuberculosis (and later his own), caused him to give up. The scene in Glenn Weaver's book may be a simplification, but it is no exaggeration. He literally drove away from all he had known, choosing to live in embittered seclusion for the remainder of his life. Other than a few family members, his only correspondents during his final years were people at Trinity, especially the Epsilon brother-

hood. He died in 1930, and for the first time in 57 years the name of Robert H. Coleman was removed from the active rolls of St. Anthony in Hartford.

The thesis completed, I had to give it a title. I decided to call it *The Touch of Time*, from a line in the baccalaureate sermon delivered on the eve of Bob Coleman's Trinity graduation in June 1877. These were words I knew he had heard, and whether or not he ever remembered them, they would stand as a phrase by which later generations might remember him. I gave a copy of my thesis manuscript to the Trinity library, and I sent one to the Lebanon County Historical Society, in grateful acknowledgement of their assistance.

I moved on from Trinity after receiving my MA and began teaching on the faculty of the Fay School in Southborough, Massachusetts. The summer before I began there, I received a letter from the Lebanon County Historical Society seeking my permission to publish *The Touch of Time* as a book. Flattered, I granted permission, and the rest, as they say, is history.

When the book came out, I was invited down to Lebanon for its unveiling. It was a wonderful experience. Over the years, the ghost of Robert Coleman makes an appearance from time to time. Telephone calls from historical researchers and curious Epsilon pledges occur with reliable frequency. Once, a Coleman descendant visited me in my classroom, providing me with previously unknown information that motivated my writing of an afterward that subsequently appeared in a later printing of the book.

The chapter house still stands. After all Bob Coleman accomplished in his life, it remains his one vibrant and living legacy, a symbol of and a haven for those worthy brethren who have followed in his footsteps. New pledges gaze up at his portrait, and I understand that his biography is the most requested of all the works in Trinity's collection of its master's theses.

For me, it is a strange feeling at times. Although I have written several books since then, and while I hope to write more, the only one that can be sure of constant readership, year after year, is that little 80-page biography I wrote 20 years ago. Although I have been teaching history for the better part of two decades, it is with Robert Coleman's history that I will be ever associated. And all because of a singing group, some time spent wandering through a library, and special bonds of brotherhood forged when I was just 19.

There is a kind of rough symmetry to it. My undergraduate adviser at Trinity (Dr. Norton Downs) and my graduate adviser (Dr. Ted Sloan) were both Hall brothers, as was John Mason, who first taught me just how to honor the trust of the brethren. So much of my yesterday was shaped by Robert H. Coleman, as have been and will be the yesterdays, today's, and tomorrows of countless sisters and brothers.

Time touches us all.

*Copies of The Touch of Time can be ordered from the Lebanon County Historical Society (924 Cumberland St., Lebanon, PA 17042; 1-717-272-1473; lebhhistory@lmf.net; lebanonhistory.org) at a cost of \$6 each (and the author no longer gets a dime).*

## Our Alumni Write

"Any brothers who enjoy mountain golf should plan a visit," writes **F. Reed Hoisington III, E'49**. "We live at 3,200 feet overlooking a fine course where I play year-round" (123 Long Dr., Maggie Valley, NC 28751; reed3rd@charter.net).

Writes **William N. Bernhard, E'50**, "I retired from the University of Maryland's R.A. Cowley Shock Trauma Center in July 1998 and the Maryland Army National Guard in November 1998. Now I visit college respiratory care training programs for the committee on accreditation for respiratory care (CoARC). Also, I am a DOD contractor for aviation medicine, so I am back doing flight duty medical exams for Army pilots and crew as well as physicals on Special Forces soldiers." Send best wishes to Bill at 1430 Carpenters Point Rd., Perryville, MD 21903, or contact him via e-mail at wbernhardmd@aol.com.

Keep in touch with **Michael L. Wallace, E'54**, at 745 Pectin Rd., Naples, FL 34102.

An attorney, **Joseph O. Humphreys, E'58**, receives mail at P.O. Box 217, Amelia, VA 23002 (e-mail: joe@amelialaw.com).

"Kathy and I are now officially empty-nesters," reports **W. Gregory Coward, E'65** (1950 Heritage Dr., Wayzata, MN 55391; wgc@bitstream.net). "Kate is a senior at Brown and Will a freshman at the University of Puget Sound. Kathy continues overseeing development for the Trust for Public Land in 12 states. I am a commuter to Kansas City, learning Northwest Airlines' motto, 'We're not happy till you're not happy.'"

Greet **Talbot T. Speer Jr., E'64**, at 128 E. 61st St., New York, NY 10021.

Writes **Albert Lucas, E'69**, "I was pleased to hear Bro. **Will Whetzel's (E'69)** great news and that so many brothers gathered to celebrate Bro. **Bill Miller's (E'69)** 50th. My regards to one and all! I would welcome visits or e-mail from fellow brothers" (47 La Jolla Court, Danville, CA 94526; e-mail: lucasbert@hotmail.com).

The president of the Military Recruiting Institute, **Louis K. Benjamin, E'73**, resides at 4631 Ivygate Circle, Smyrna, GA 30080, and receives e-mail at lou@jrofficer.com.

**Carey J. Doyle, E'74**, receives correspondence at 4955 W. Napoleon Ave., Ste. 340, Metairie, LA 70001; e-mail: carey@ont.com.

**William K. Clark, E'76**, works for Austine School for the Deaf and receives mail at Box 323, Townshend, VT 05353. He receives e-mail at kappclark@hotmail.com.

Keep in touch with **Peter L. Bain, E'79**, by writing him at 205 Goodwood Garden, Baltimore, MD 21210; e-mail: pbain@leggmason.com. He is executive vice president of Legg Mason, Inc.

Pens **Robert D. Goner, E'83**, "I found Pete, rekindled with Wilmerding, and am still looking for Mario. Klinger rules." Write Goner at 435 E. 79th St., #2E, New York, NY 10021; rdgoner@yahoo.com.

The managing director of Northington Partners, Inc., **William D. Bitterli, E'84**, welcomes correspondence at 79 Highridge Rd., West Simsbury, CT 06092, and via e-mail at wdb@northington.net.

Announces **Elise Boelhouwer Kressley, E'85**, "We welcomed Caitlin Elisabeth into our family on April 18, 2001. Her big sister is very happy. I'm still in private practice in child adolescent psychiatry." Send her congratulations at 70 N. Main St., Essex, CT 06426.

"We're busy with restorations of our own," writes **Eric B. Twombly, E'86**. "We're digging a full basement under our 1916 Victorian beach house in Milford. I bumped into **Lucian Snow, E'85**, on the train about a month ago. He lives in Wilton and now works in foreign equity sales for Commerzbank Securities in New York City." Contact Eric at 194 Third Ave., Milford, CT 06460, or via e-mail at etwombly@sempratrading.com.

When he last wrote, **Michael J. Petruccelli, E'87**, announced that he was going to be married to Ami Susan Edds on September 15 in Indianapolis, Indiana. He is executive assistant to the chairman of the Export-Import Bank of the United States. Send the couple congratulations at 4806 Jamestown Rd., Bethesda, MD 20816; e-mail: mjpetruccelli@hotmail.com.

"Life is good in Boston," pens **Ian A. Findlay, E'89** (93 School St., Belmont, MA 02478; ifindlay@marketspaceglobal.com). "I am working as the CIO for a consulting/media/business intelligence firm, but, most important, my wife, Lynn, and I are expecting our second child in December."

Write **Dorothy M. Cavanagh, E'96**, at P.O. Box 796, Middleburg, VA 20118; e-mail: dorothycavanagh@hotmail.com.

Greet **Aleksandar Milosavljevic-Cook, E'97**, at 127 Chickville Rd., Ossipee, NH 03864; c02138@aol.com.

A financial adviser with Mass Mutual, **Nicholas T. Allen, E'98**, resides at 655 15th Ave., San Francisco, CA 94118 (e-mail: my99thtry@hotmail.com).

## NECROLOGY

**William N. Booth, E'55**

September 21, 1999

**John C. Hartz, E'56**

September 11, 2001

**Dexter W. Smith, E'53**

December 3, 2000

**Jonathan K. Sterling, E'28**

**Paul D. White, E'41**

October 2000

**William D. "Wawa" Wood, E'60**

September 30, 2001

*The following is from "Portraits of Grief," a New York Times series of personal sketches of those lost on September 11, 2001, in the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center. Jonathan Landman, Metro editor, and his staff conceived the feature for its scrapbook value rather than as standard obituaries. Reprinted by permission.*

### John C. Hartz, E'56: Giving to the Causes

As they do in so many households, the letters seeking charitable donations piled up. But John C. Hartz would not throw them away unopened. One by one he would go through them; carefully, thoughtfully, he would choose which charities he would send money.

"He was inclined to go through all the solicitations and would consider giving to them all," said his wife, Ellie Hartz. "Many times, he would send them something." The causes ranged from endangered species to local community services.

She and Mr. Hartz, 64, a senior vice president at Fiduciary Trust, started their romance with a blind date in January 2000. They married last November. The couple, who lived in Basking Ridge, NJ, hiked on nearby trails and biked along the Delaware River. "I was so much looking forward to the rest of our lives together," Mrs. Hartz said. "It was too short a time. We were basically just newlyweds. I couldn't think of growing old with anybody but him." For their honeymoon, the Hartzes took their grown children to Bermuda.

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## the epsilon reporter

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Published by the Epsilon Chapter of St. Anthony Hall at Trinity College. News and pictures are welcome and should be sent to St. Anthony Hall at Trinity, c/o St. Anthony Hall Foundation, Inc., P.O. Box 876, Ithaca, NY 14851-0876 (888/580-9349; stanthony@clarityconnect.com).