



## End-of-Term BBQ Treats Residents to Dinner and Movie

By Jeffrey Mo

The End-of-the-Term barbecue was held on Sunday, May 30th in the Sidney-Pacific courtyard. Despite, or perhaps due to, it being the long three-day Memorial Day weekend, approximately 180 attendees showed up to enjoy the food and entertainment provided, many of them staying well after the sun had set! Burgers and hot dogs were available to the residents, as were a variety of drinks, fruits, cookies, and delicious (and very popular!) pies and cheesecakes. The party started at 7 PM, and after over an hour and a half of eating, socializing, and unwinding (of the non-alcoholic variety), the 2009 hit summer comedy "The Hangover," accompanied by popcorn, oranges, and pineapple, was shown on a screen facing the courtyard. The ending of the movie luckily coincided with the dip in outdoor temperature!

A lot of the barbecue's success can be attributed to the many volunteers who came out to help. Over ten Sidney-Pacific residents showed up over two hours before the barbecue start-

ed to help grill the meat, to cut the pies and the fruit, and to set up the screen. Several of these volunteers kept working hard during the barbecue to cook burgers (and for those who requested them, cheeseburgers) for the long lines of eager guests, and ten more stayed behind after the movie had concluded to help take down the screen and clean up in the kitchen. If you might be interested in volunteering for some of our future events - and

in particular, our Summer Beach Party to be held on July 10th - please contact us at [sp-social-chair@mit.edu](mailto:sp-social-chair@mit.edu).

Finally, we have a lineup of many fun events set up for you all throughout this summer - in addition to the aforementioned Summer Beach Party in July, we have a Bingo Night coming up later on this month and a Farewell Party/Furniture Auction later on in August. We hope to see you there!



Courtesy of SP Photofile Committee

Sidney-Pacific residents enjoy a relaxing dinner at the End-of-Term Barbecue on Sunday, May 30.

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# Beat the Summer Doldrums: Summer Events in Boston

By SPEC

Troubled by the dull Summer? Although the MIT campus may seem quiet and dull with undergraduate students having gone home for the summer, this doesn't mean that Boston and Cambridge have nothing to offer those who stay behind (like us graduate students!)

July 4th, the United States' Independence Day, features many of the best-known Boston events of the summer, especially the Boston Pops Fireworks Spectacular, one of the best-known July 4th traditions in America.

Although it is often difficult to get in to see the actual concert, which requires arriving at the Oval well in advance (many

people arrive when it first opens at 9AM!), you can still get an excellent vantage point of the fireworks display by staking out a position on the Harvard Bridge, as the fireworks are launched from the Charles River itself at 10:30PM.

On the next day, July 5th, Boston holds the 29th Annual Chowderfest. Here, Boston's seafood restaurants competing for the coveted crown of 'Boston's Best Chowder' serve an estimated 7,500 litres (2,000 gallons) of New England's famed clam chowder to the thousands of visitors who attend the event each year. When you've had your fill of chowder, feel free to kick back and enjoy a packed entertain-

ment programme that includes live music, jugglers, and other entertainers.

Late summer brings Shakespeare in Boston Common. Between July 28th and August 15th, the Commonwealth Shakespeare Company puts on a free Shakespeare play every Tuesday through Sunday in Boston Common. This year's play is *Othello*, Shakespeare's timeless drama about trust and betrayal, faith and doubt, love and hate.

Be on the lookout for invitations to some of these events, on posters and SPTV as Sidney-Pacific may offer the chance to go to many of these events with your friends and neighbors in Sidney-Pacific!

## SP Hosts 5th Annual Alum Dinner

By Amy Bilton

On Saturday June 5th, Sidney Pacific hosted its Fifth Annual Alumni Dinner. Over 40 current and future alumni from Sidney-Pacific gathered in the SP Multi-purpose Room on the evening of June 5th for an evening of good food, conversation and reflection. The highlight of the evening was a truly inspiring speech provided by the first president of Sidney Pacific, Shunmugavelu Sokka. We in the Sidney-Pacific government hope to make this event even bigger and better in the years to come. All future graduates, keep your eyes open for your invitation in the coming years!



Courtesy of SP Photofile Committee  
Shunmugavelu Sokka shares words of wisdom from his experiences at Sidney Pacific.

# Be Disrespectful to Dirt!

By Mr. Sparkle

Residents may have noticed that Sidney-Pacific has been undergoing some “Spring Cleaning” lately. Yearly window washing and kitchen cleanings are wrapping up or just finished; the old saltwater aquarium has been removed from the lobby to soon be replaced with a freshwater equivalent; graduating students are cleaning out their rooms as they move off to their new jobs and residences.

With all this work going on around SP, you may want to think about your own Spring cleaning! Just as Sidney-Pacific is kept clean for you, you should try to keep

clean for Sidney-Pacific! Many unsanitary bugs and bacteria love messy environments and will tend to proliferate in them. Keeping your room and living space clean is one of the best ways to prevent cockroaches and other pests from taking root in SP and plaguing your neighbors.

This time of year also brings out posters of things for sale from various graduating students. You should be aware of bedding and clothing made available for sale, however, as you may be unknowingly contributing to the spread of bedbugs, which may bite you and leave nasty mosquito-like bites. Getting rid of bedbugs is not as simple as cleaning up how-

ever, and may require the appropriate application of pesticides, throwing away material bearing bedbugs, possibly even temporarily kicking you out of your room to do so!

If these issues haven’t convinced you to clean up, you probably should clean up your room just for your friends and loved ones. After all, who likes to visit a friend with a dirty room? You wouldn’t want to visit someone who had cockroaches and other pests in their house, so why should you put up with it in your own room?

## Sidney Pacific Speaker

Newsletter Chair  
Michelle Chen

The Speaker is published on a monthly basis to serve the needs of the Sidney Pacific Graduate Community. Submissions of articles, photos, events, and other items of interest can be sent to:

[sp-newsletter-chair@mit.edu](mailto:sp-newsletter-chair@mit.edu)



## *Interested in Interest Groups?*

Discover residents that share your interests! Find e-mail lists and register for Sidney-Pacific’s interest groups at:

[https://s-p.mit.edu/myacct/interest\\_groups.php](https://s-p.mit.edu/myacct/interest_groups.php)

There is neither honor nor gain  
got in dealing with a villain.



In success, be moderate.



Genius without education is like  
silver in the mine.



Would you persuade, speak of  
interest, not of reason.

## Upcoming Events

- ◇ 6/20: Mt. Monadnock Hike
- ◇ 6/23: Coffee Hour
- ◇ 6/26: Cultural Festival
- ◇ 7/7: Coffee Hour
- ◇ 7/10: Summer Beach Party
- ◇ 7/11: World Cup Final
- ◇ 7/17: Camping Trip
- ◇ 7/21: Coffee Hour
- ◇ 7/25: July Brunch

Read much, but not many books.



Observe all men; thyself most.



He that won’t be counsell’d,  
can’t be help’d.



One may be more cunning than  
another, but not more cunning  
than everybody else.

# Stay Cool in Summer

By Ian Jacobi

June 20th marks the beginning of Summer in the northern hemisphere, and is the longest day in the year. What does this mean for you, fellow residents? It means that the dog days of the Boston summer are upon us, as you might have already realized over the past few weeks.

Boston is quite humid in the summer, with an average relative humidity of 60% in the afternoons. Together with highs in the 80s and 90s, afternoons can sometimes be stifling for people unaccustomed to such climes.

Staying inside is one way to beat the heat, but if you do go out to exercise, be careful of heatstroke and be sure to drink plenty of water. It's often best to exercise during the morning or evening hours, outside of the heat of the day. If you are active during the heat of the day, take it easy and rest often.

## Did You Know...

... that the Celsius scale for measuring temperature originally measured 0 as the boiling point, and 100 as the freezing point?

... that most radio and TV stations east of the Mississippi have callsigns starting with W, while

those west of it start with a K?

... that only seven named tropical cyclones have crossed between the Atlantic and Pacific oceans?

... that the word Yankee may come from the Dutch "Janneke," a nickname for Dutch settlers in colonial America?

## Sudoku? Sudoku!

			7				6	
		4			3		2	9
	2				5			1
5				1			9	
	4	2	5		6	8	3	
	9			8				5
2			6				1	
4	8		1			6		
	6				9			

*How to Play:* Fill the empty squares with digits from 1 to 9 so that each row, column, and 3x3 square features each digit exactly once.



## Don't Like What You See?

Join the Newsletter Committee and help us make the SPEAKER better!

If you like to write, idolize those who journalize, or just want to report on sports...

Contact us at  
[sp-newsletter-chair@mit.edu](mailto:sp-newsletter-chair@mit.edu)