



[Winter Gala Co-Chairs](#)



[Poinsettia Sale](#)



[Bird Breathalyzer](#)

Alumni Updates



▶ **Winter Gala coming up** The URI Alumni Association and Honorary Chairs [Thomas D. Cerio III](#)

['76 and Donna Arnold '76, M '78](#) cordially invite you to the 13th annual [Winter Gala](#) to be held on Saturday, January 31, 2004, at the Hyatt Regency in Newport.



▶ **Catch up with old friends** If you've lost touch with former classmates, this is a great time of year to reconnect! With the [free URI Online Alumni Directory](#), you can search

for old friends using a variety of criteria. All information is in a secure, password-protected online database. [Register today!](#)



▶ **Young Alumni Weekend planned**

Graduates of the last decade will soon have

a new tradition. The first-ever [Young Alumni Weekend](#), February 27-28, 2004, will feature a number of great events, including the [Blue & White Ball](#).

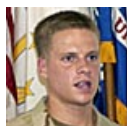
▶ **Thank you for your annual giving** Our thanks go to all those who have contributed so generously to the 2003-2004 Annual Fund. If you haven't made a gift to the URI Alumni Fund, Parents Fund, Graduate School Funds, or Rhode Island Rams Athletic Association (RIRAA), please consider including URI in your year-end giving plans. You can make your gift [online](#) or mail it to: URI Annual Fund, P.O. Box

University News & Events

▶ **URI hosts poinsettia event** The campus greenhouses will be alive with color for the University's third annual Poinsettia Day Sale held **Saturday, December 6**, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Close to 100 varieties of poinsettias will be available, more than 50 of which are variations on the conventional red. [Read more...](#)

▶ **Bird breathalyzer helps assess migratory diet** While breathalyzers help police crack down on drunk driving, a similar new device is helping a URI graduate student analyze the dietary changes of migrating songbirds. [Read more...](#)

▶ **New endowment creates scholarships for engineering ambassadors** Armando F. "Gus" Lusi '47 recently donated \$50,000 for the establishment of the A.F. Lusi Construction Engineering Ambassadors Scholarship. The new endowment will provide twelve \$500 scholarships each semester to deserving students who will serve as ambassadors for the URI College of Engineering, helping to recruit students, promote the college, and provide tours for visitors and alumni. [Read more...](#)



▶ **Alumnus recounts his experience as one of first soldiers to enter Iraq** Army 1st Lt. Mark Padien '01, a member of the Third Infantry Division, spoke to a group of Army Reserve Officer Training Corps cadets this fall about his first-hand experiences in Iraq. [Read more...](#)

▶ **URI awarded \$3.5 million National Science Foundation grant** The National Science Foundation awarded URI a \$3.5 million NSF ADVANCE grant designed to increase the number of women faculty members in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, and to support existing women scientists with career development and training opportunities. [Read more...](#)



▶ **Athletic Hall of Fame has a new home** The achievements of members of the URI Athletic Hall of Fame are recognized at a new Athletic Hall of Fame located in the Ryan Center. Unveiled in October 2003, the new Hall of Fame features a plaque for each of the 287 student-athletes, coaches, administrators, and boosters inducted since 1959. [Read more...](#)

▶ **URI holiday gift ideas** [Shop online](#) for sweatshirts, hats, and a variety of URI items for all those Rhody fans on your list. For a special gift to last a lifetime, order a personalized brick to be placed on the Quad in the [URI Century Walk](#). Your \$100 tax-deductible contribution will benefit the many scholarships, student development programs, and alumni programs sponsored by the Alumni Association.



▶ **Holiday programs at the Ryan Center** December is a busy time at the Ryan Center, which will host the Boston Pops on December 12 and the Jingle Mingle on December 16. Take a look at [upcoming Ryan Center events...](#)

▶ [More URI News](#)

OTHER NEWS SOURCES

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ALUMNI LINKS

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