

Alumni of the Sigma Alpha Chapter of **DELTA KAPPA EPSILON**



P.O. Box 18231, Richmond, Virginia 23226

August 31, 2008

Our house needs your support

President's Letter: Jim Scanlon (Winter '76)

In many ways, fall seems to be the time of new beginnings. For actives, it is the start of a new school year, full of excitement and promise. For alumni, it is the kickoff to the new football season and the chance to catch up with old friends in Blacksburg. For our Association, it is the start of the next phase of our Capital Campaign.

The goal of the Campaign is to address critical projects at **our house**. We completed several major projects already. The new roof, porch, windows and paint were all needed on the outside. The interior renovation work included rooms in the attic and the upstairs bathroom. We replaced the furnace and added air conditioning, improving comfort and reducing operating costs. We installed a sprinkler system throughout the house to improve safety and reduce insurance costs.

We still need to perform several important projects. The basement entrance stairs and door need replacement to improve safety and correct drainage problems. The kitchen needs renovation, and plans are being prepared for first floor restroom improvements. These projects will protect the health and safety of the house residents, improve our ability to attract new members, and ensure we will have **our house** to return to for many years to come.

Alumni tax-deductible contributions to the Rampant Lion Foundation/Sigma Alpha Fund pay for the ongoing capital improvements. All donations received to date have been spent, and we currently owe \$75,000 in a short-term credit facility that we need to pay down with new contributions. Your annual \$50 dues cover alumni operating expenses including newsletters, liability insurance, PO Box, etc.

I need to ask for your help. First, please register your e-mail address through our website, www.vtdke.com, so we can send you the latest information and reduce our mailing expenses. Second, please send your \$50 dues for 2008 if you have not already. **Third and most important, please help us continue to restore our house by making a significant tax-deductible contribution.** There are many, many of you we still need to hear from.

Thank you in advance for coming through.
FFTHF,

Jim Scanlon, Winter '76, Alumni Association President
Fairfax, Virginia
jhscanlon@gmail.com

Sign up for our e-mail newsletter

Help us build a complete e-mail list! We've made it very quick and easy to do – just visit our new website at www.vtdke.com and click on "Update Records" in the top on the right side.

E-mail lets us communicate on shorter notice and with less manual effort than a print newsletter. Most importantly, it eliminates significant printing and postage costs – money better spent on the house, events or both.



DKE Stadium Tailgates

New this year – see page 2



DKS/DKE football tailgates on the map at Lane Stadium

Theta Bowden (Fall '70)

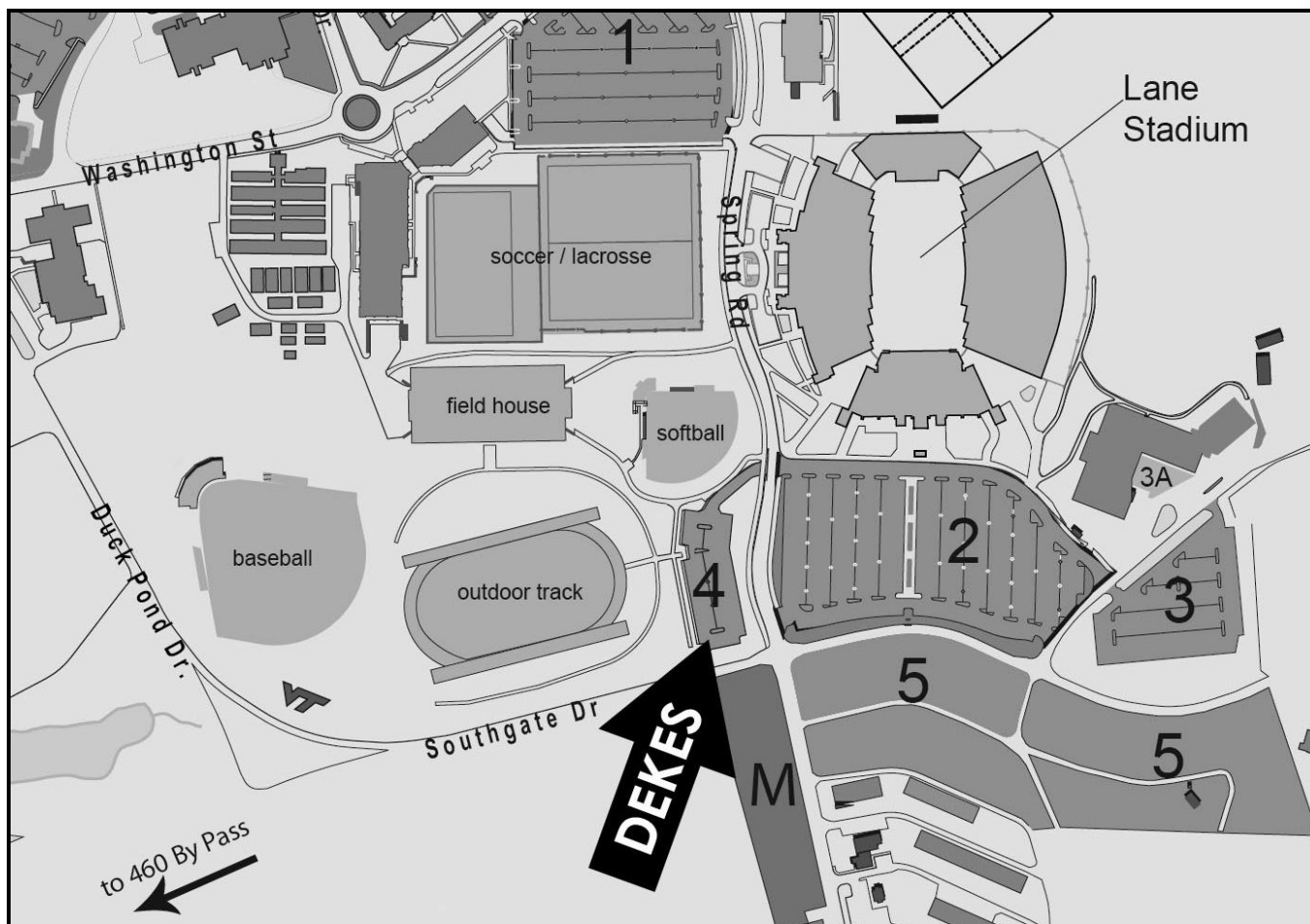
Mickey Hayes (Spring '62) has come through with a primo A-1 parking space for our football tailgating. We're proud to announce the inaugural ΔΚΣ/ΔΚΕ Alumni Tailgate in the stadium parking lot for this weekend's Furman game, starting three hours before kickoff.

You can probably all agree that the primary motivation for folks to attend the tailgate (OK, besides free beer), will be rekindling old friendships with familiar faces.

Our location is **Lot 4, Space 94**, located across Spring Drive from the football stadium and just down from the softball field. We're in the corner, with one side facing Southgate Drive and the other side backing up to the track; in other words, a good bit of room so we do not disturb our neighbors – historically a Deke tradition. (Map below)

I will lead off as tailgate captain for the Furman and Georgia Tech games. Bert Burson (Winter '79) has volunteered to organize the Western Kentucky game, and Dan Johnson (Spring '74) will host the Thursday night Maryland game. We are actively seeking volunteers for future games – please let me know if you'd like to help out!

Theta Bowden, Fall '70
Blacksburg, Virginia
theta.bowden@vt.edu



House renovations: Phase 3 – first floor improvements

House Committee Update: Dan Johnson (Spring '74)

In early April our contractor received the final approval from the Town of Blacksburg for renovations made to the second and third floors, as well as our new fire sprinkler system.

With this inspection, the fraternity is allowed to 'occupy' the third floor rooms and has legal entitlement under the grandfathered zoning rules to house up to 16 residents as well as a total assembly occupancy of 152 persons (an "average crowd" by historical standards).

We would like to thank Rick Hyatt and all the crew, subcontractors and suppliers of Atmosphere Builders for completing the job in a professional manner. The relationship we've built with Atmosphere Builders will serve us in the future for additional work along with any miscellaneous repairs that may be required from time to time.

Please visit our website to see 'before' and 'after' pictures as indication of our progress over the past few years.

The next phase of work focuses on first floor restroom facilities, kitchen modifications and the construction of a new exterior basement entrance. Reynolds Architects recently completed design work, and we expect to file for a building permit in the coming months to ascertain any "zoning" issues regarding the plans.

Actual construction will depend on the availability of funding from our Capital Campaign efforts. First floor guest restroom facilities, built to quality commercial standards, are a long-awaited and much-needed addition to the house. Final budget estimates for this and the other future work will be prepared over the next few months.

Dan Johnson, Spring '74, House Committee Chairman
Richmond, Virginia
danieljohnson@comcast.net

House committee members:
Lynn Leslie (Winter '88), Sam Dibert (Spring '05)



Photos: TOP – Before attic renovations, Spring 2006
BOTTOM – After attic renovations, Spring 2008
(taken from same position!)

Actives reorganize around By-Laws and brotherhood

Active Chapter Update: Mike Field (Fall '04)

It is a pleasure to serve as President, and I look forward to handling the challenges I will face this year with our fraternity. This is my fifth year at Virginia Tech and my fifth as an active brother. In that time, I have seen our fraternity go through both strong and lackluster phases. This year we have finally returned to an era of strong brotherhood with good intentions.

We currently have 24 actives, all very excited to turn things around and bring back the better traditions of hosting socials and events while maintaining a balanced budget and growing our membership.

I would like to thank Jim Scanlon '79, Jim Scanlon '05, Roger Leibowitz, and Bert Burson for coming down to Blacksburg to meet with four members of the chapter's active Executive Council. We had a productive meeting where these alumni members worked with us to assert the By-Laws our fraternity depends on. We identified weak points and how to correct them while maintaining fraternity values of respect for our house, brotherhood and reputation. We discussed and improved our budgeting, alumni relations, pledge events and recruiting techniques.

This year will be a reconstructive year while re-establish the framework our fraternity depends on, which seemed to fade and lose importance in recent years. With our new mindset, we as a fraternity have a goal of recruiting 10 solid guys to join our brotherhood this semester.

We would like to thank existing alumni donors for their consideration, and ask everyone else to continue to support our future renovation efforts with a tax-deductible contribution. Our house residents love the beautiful third floor and we're fortunate to have these safe, clean, modern facilities. I'd especially like to thank Dan Johnson for everything he has accomplished for our house.

I hope each of you will have an opportunity this fall to see and share in our progress. FFTHF,

Michael Field, Fall '04, Active Chapter President

Blacksburg, Virginia

fieldy10@vt.edu

Refer your legacies, friends and neighbors

It's come to our attention there are at least three legacies starting at Virginia Tech this fall! Please let us know if your son, nephews, neighbors or friends are new to Blacksburg. Our actives will be happy to help in the transition. Please e-mail our Active Chapter President, Mike Field, at fieldy10@vt.edu and let him know. He'll send a group of brothers to the dorm to introduce themselves and welcome your student to campus.

Annual meeting scheduled: November 22 (Duke game)

Please mark your calendars! We will have our annual Alumni Association meeting at the DKE House following the Duke game on Saturday, November 22, 2008. We anticipate an unfortunate noon kickoff, so will organize a reception at the house afterwards for our meeting.

Last year we had 40+ alumni brothers show up for the meeting and hope for a similar turnout this year.



Financial update

Treasurer's Letter: Roger Leibowitz (Winter '76)

A brief overview is as follows:

As of August 31, 2008:

Operating account cash:	\$ 4,512.54
Rampant Lion Fund	<u>\$ 9,870.00</u>
Total resources available	\$ 14,382.54

Accounts payable, renovation	\$ 1,025.59
Temporary line of credit	\$ 75,975.74

Campaign Details Online

View campaign details on our web site:

- Complete list of donors
- Campaign brochure PDF
- Completed & planned improvements
- Tax-deductible fund information
- Corporate matching information

www.vtdke.com/fundraising

Immediate cash needs to cover renovation expenses already incurred is approximately \$77,000. We have used a temporary bridge loan to cover the shortfall but that will not work on a long-term basis.

Rampant Lion Fund Summary

Total donations received from inception (Summer 2006)	\$ 90,470.00
Total distributions for renovation	<u>(80,600.00)</u>
Net currently available for future distributions	\$ 9,870.00

A full list of Capital Campaign donors to date is available on our website, www.vtdke.com/fundraising.

Please help us pay off our temporary line of credit as soon as possible with a tax-deductible donation. This line of credit currently costs us \$443.15 every month in interest – money better spent on our house! An envelope and contribution card is enclosed with this newsletter.

Many thanks for your interest in our fraternity's future.

Roger Leibowitz, Winter '76, Alumni Association Treasurer
Richmond, Virginia
roger.leibowitz@gmail.com

Give Now

Make checks out to:
Rampant Lion Foundation-Sigma Alpha Fund

Send checks to:
P.O. Box 18231
Richmond, VA 23226



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Delta Kappa Epsilon Fraternity
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