

# Alumni of the Sigma Alpha Chapter of DELTA KAPPA EPSILON



and DELTA KAPPA SIGMA - P.O. Box 18231, Richmond, Virginia 23226

August 28, 2009

## Alumni Association Update

Another school year has already started in Blacksburg. With that it is time to put out all the news that is fit to print in regards to the DKE/DKS Alumni Association. We will start with the good stuff:

- The alumni association is still solvent (to a certain degree anyway) and thanks to those 40 alumni paying dues and contributions totaling \$15,700 so far this year, we have a cash balance. We remain an IRS compliant Non-Profit organization.
- VT Football and DKE Tailgates are back for a 2<sup>nd</sup> season and promise to be bigger and better this year. Alumni participation in organizing, setting up, and providing in-kind donations was great last year and we even have more volunteers coming forth to help organize most of this year's home games (See below on page 3 for tailgate schedule).
- Alumni participation through attending tailgates is growing and we actually have some volunteers to stand up for the board election and offering to assist in alumni activities.
- We received building permit approvals for the first floor bathroom and exterior stairs and these projects are ready to go once funding is available. And finally the house is still standing!

### 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](http://www.vtdke.com)** and click on "Update Records" in the top on the right side.

E-mail lets us communicate on shorter notice than a print newsletter. Most importantly, it cuts mailing costs, money better spent on the house, events or both.

OK so maybe we are stretching; the definition of good stuff isn't all it's cracked up to be, but sometimes we just have to accept that. Now for the rest of the update:

- Our capital campaign lost its muster and has left us well short of our goal. The number of alumni contributors (just 49 in 2008 and 40 so far this year) has dropped from previous years to the lowest levels in the past decade (our average has been 95 per year with a peak year of 120 contributors) but we still have time left this year to make up for that. Please donate!
- The active fraternity membership remains small with just 21 active brothers returning this fall. The fraternity needs to grow to 40-50 active members for financial sustainability.
- The house rooms are not fully rented for this year again and thus resulting in no surplus rental income to provide for ongoing house improvements or to pay down the bridge loan.
- The VT DKE Alumni Association needs to hold its bi-annual election. Please vote!
- Our website [www.vtdke.com](http://www.vtdke.com) needs some updating but we are working on it, slowly but surely. Please check it out and help us locate ALL of our Delta Kappa Sigma and Delta Kappa Epsilon brothers by updating your information and supplying names, news and whereabouts of others.

So despite the ups and downs, we look forward to YOUR participation in the fraternity. Attend or just visit the DKE/DKS Alumni tailgates this year and meet up with a few of your fellow alumni brothers as well as meeting some of the active fraternity members in school. And stop by the house at 302 E. Roanoke Street, the longest, continuously owned fraternity house in Blacksburg, owned by us, the oldest continuous fraternity at Virginia Tech. FTFHF,

*your* VTDKE Alumni Association



# Financial Situation

We have had 40 individuals pay dues and make a donation to the fraternity's foundation so far this year. A complete list of donors can be found on the [www.vtdke.com](http://www.vtdke.com) website. Included in the donors this year are 3 first time contributors, 7 contributors reaching the 10-YEAR CLUB milestone and one new REFOUNDING FATHER TIER member. This is well below our average for past 10 years (90+ contributors per year). We have conveniently put in a donation card and return envelope for your convenience. Please complete the information card and use the same envelope to include your election ballot below.

We aim to make the house a financially sustainable operation whereby rents cover operating expenses, namely mortgage, taxes and insurance and upkeep. Unfortunately this year we are again in a slight deficit positions as two of the rooms are currently unfilled due to unexpected non-returnees. Currently we have approximately \$15K in cash but have yet to pay down the \$75K letter of credit loan used to pay for house improvements.

We still have some capital programs on the books. These are the installation of a new first floor "guest" bathroom done to a quality and standard that we would actually use, kitchen area upgrades with donated cabinets and appliances (partially completed) and a new exterior basement entrance. Building permits have been obtained for the work and detailed quotes are being prepared by our preferred contractor.

# Alumni Board Election

The time has come for another election of the board of directors. Early primary campaigns have been exhaustive and the following slate has been nominated to run against the NoOne Party. We would like to thank Jim Scanlon for his efforts over the past two years in leading the organization. Your vote is important. In fact it is so important that if you want to elect yourself as an adjunct board member, one vote just might do it. We ask that you simply cut out the following ballot and return it in the enclosed envelope by September 30<sup>th</sup>.

Position - Executive Council	Nominee	For	No
Director and President	Daniel Johnson (Spring '74)		
Director and Treasurer	Roger Leibowitz (Winter '76)		
Director and Secretary	Tom Overton (Spring '85)		
Director (Alumni-at-Large)	Charlie Munn (Fall '74)		
Director (Alumni-at-Large)	Bert Burson (Winter '79)		
Write In Candidate			

In addition to the elected Executive Council the following alumni have indicated their interest to serve as adjunct board members and/or on various committees: Lynn Leslie (Chapter Advisor); Sam Dibert; James H Scanlon; James T Scanlon; Charlie Lloyd; Jack Hutcheson (Faculty Advisor); Jim Daniel; Dick Anderson; Mickey Hayes; and Theta Bowden. All alumni are encouraged to participate; and all ideas and volunteers are welcome.

# Actives Update

The fraternity has 21 active dues paying members. Officers for this year are: Mike Konyha, President; Sam Rose, Vice President; Tim Latham, Treasurer; Dave Myers, Secretary and Jason Spooner, Member-at-Large. The brothers installed a badly needed, new floor covering in the kitchen in the past few weeks prior to classes starting. We are excited about the upcoming year and are planning for an active social and rush calendar. Our goals remain to actively grow the fraternity. Should you have sons, relatives, neighbors etc attending VT send us a note and we will make a point of inviting them to rush our fraternity.

## DKS-DKE Tailgates 2009 Football Season

With VT football expectations as high as they have ever been, we are hoping to gear up our tailgate program accordingly and even take the show on the road. Theta Bowden has agreed to coordinate the tailgate program and we have enlisted a series of lead volunteers to help organize each tailgate. We still have lots of room for more volunteers, so please contact Theta. Bringing extra food/snacks is always welcomed. We are at the same spot as last year; Lot 4, space 194 just to the SW of Lane Stadium. Check the website for maps. Time is typically three hours before kickoff.

We are starting in Atlanta for the VT-Alabama game. Bob Snyder has scoped the area and we have settled on meeting at the STATS Food Play Sports Bar & Grill. All area restaurants and bars are expected to be packed and private function rooms were either unavailable or exorbitantly expensive, so we decided that a designated pre-game to the pre-game meeting point location lunch/drinks was the best alternative. Look for the DKE/DKS tap table gathering and check at front door for location.

The first home game is against Marshall. We plan to showcase our alumni association participation and strength to prospective new members interested. Please bring along and introduce any known VT students who are potential DKE members. All are welcome.

### DKE Tailgate Schedule

- Sept 5<sup>th</sup> - Alabama in Atlanta - [Bob Snyder] - STATS Food Play 300 Marietta Street (4 blocks from stadium) 12:00-3:00pm+ Look for DKE/DKS tables
- Sept 12<sup>th</sup> - Marshall - [Theta Bowden - Active Brotherhood] - The active brotherhood will be sponsoring an open rush for prospective new members so attend to show the strength of DKS/DKE alumni.
- Sept 19<sup>th</sup> - Nebraska - [Peyton Winfree/Charlie Webb; Bob Dreelin Buzz Wainman] - will be a sellout
- Sept 26<sup>th</sup> - Miami - [Theta Bowden]
- Oct 3<sup>rd</sup> - at Duke in Durham - TBA - we hope to organize gathering point at local DKE chapter
- Oct 10<sup>th</sup> - Boston College - [TBA - could use a lead organizer]
- Oct 17<sup>th</sup> - at Georgia Tech in Atlanta - TBA - if Alabama game venue works, we will repeat location
- Oct 29<sup>th</sup> - UNC on Thursday night [Dan Johnson]
- Nov 5<sup>th</sup> - at ECU in Greenville NC - nothing planned still looking for volunteer to organize location
- Nov 14<sup>th</sup> - at Maryland - [Jack Hutcheson] Marriott as part of VT Alumni Association
- Nov 21<sup>st</sup> - NC State - [Bert Burson]
- Nov 28<sup>th</sup> - at UVA in Charlottesville - TBA and if we are 11-0 you can bet on something!

Last year was a great start to this new DKE tradition. We are looking to expand our program and any sort of in-kind tailgate related donations [e.g. additional chairs, food, coolers, Pepsi-DKE tent (*Bradley??*), etc.] are always welcome. For any alumni coming down on Hokie Club busses, the DKE/DKS tailgate is a great location to meet while in Blacksburg.

OK, hopefully you have made it this far and have voted and are ready to insert your ballot, information/donation card and hopefully a check into the enclosed envelope. Your support of Deeks/Dekes is greatly appreciated. You can also volunteer to write "sub-newsletters" some of your fellow fraternity brothers and share the news with others. We can supply mailing labels, stamps, and even letter templates for anyone is so inclined.

FFTHF ("Friends from the Heart Forever")



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