

Alumni of the Sigma Alpha Chapter of DELTA KAPPA EPSILON



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

July 1, 2010

Alumni Association/Chapter Update

Chairman's Letter: Dan Johnson (Spring '74)

Greetings fellow DKE/DKS Brothers: It has been just a few months since our last newsletter and this represents our second communication of 2010.

We are in the early planning stages (which means someone floated the idea) of having a 70th anniversary get together of the local DKS fraternity founding which was back in 1941. We would plan either a Spring 2011 or Fall 2011 (non-football weekend) date. The celebration will also be used to mark the 100th anniversary of the DKE house at 302 East Roanoke Street which was built back in 1910 or 1912 depending on which records you believe, so 2011 is a good compromise date. Of course this celebration is dependent on the house still standing for another year.

We are also looking at expanding our tailgate program for the upcoming season, including taking the tailgate on the road to FedEx Field for the Labor Day matchup against Boise State. We will follow up over course of the summer with details of time and location for this tailgate. But in the meantime tailgates for all home games in Blacksburg are planned at Lot 4, Space 94 in same location as past two years. We had fantastic turnouts last year and Charlie Webb (Spring '86) and Theta Bowden (Fall '70) have stepped up as co-chairs of the DKE/DKS Tailgate Club, a highly sought-after and exclusive club. To further expand the tailgate activities and support the fraternity we respectfully request (and outright beg) that you make your voluntary 2010 tax-deductible contribution and throw in a few extra bucks to help the Tailgate Club get a roaring start this year. All extra Tailgate Club contributions will be earmarked for alumni social activities. As in past years we would still like to maintain unofficial "hosts" for the tailgates. Charlie's email is cwebb@benefitsgroup.net so contact him with your interest to host or otherwise help out the club for the upcoming season.

We have received a multitude of responses to our newsletters and advice on how to improve them. Now of course the most common requests are: *Can I give more money?* Why yes, you can, and please be generous. [OK we made that one up, but you get the drift.] *I would give more money but can you shorten the Rampant Lion Foundation - Sigma Alpha Fund payee name?* Sure. RLF-SA Fund will work [and you can even make credit card donations on line if you don't want to even write all that stuff out.] *Seriously, guys, how about some more news about alumni?* Ask no more. See below our first Page 3 "pledge class year column" for the 1974-75 academic year. Guest columnist Charlie Munn (Fall '74) provides a now and then update of all the news that's fit to print on everybody who joined DKE during the 1974-1975 academic year.

Now to help this column persist into future issues, we need future guest columnists to dust off their pledge books, and track down their fellow brothers to either find out or make up some stuff about their contemporaries. We will cover a different year in each newsletter. So with your donation card please volunteer as your honorary pledge class year scribe and let everyone know who is still alive and kicking.

We look forward to YOUR participation in the fraternity. Most of time it means just showing up. How hard is that? FFTHF, Daniel Johnson - danieldjohnson@comcast.net

Join our email list

We've had an e-mail newsletter going since 2007, and about 300 of you have joined our list. We're grateful - it helps us better keep in touch *and* send paper mailings less often, money better spent on the house, events or both. But there are still at least 300 more of you out there who we're not reaching.

We don't e-mail too often. **Please join our list** - it's painless - just visit www.vtdke.com and click "Update Records" at the top on the right side.



News from the DKE president

Active Chapter Update: Sam Rose (Spring '08)

In November 2009, the Active Chapter was suspended as a student organization by the University for a one year period. DKE was suspended as a result of several unrelated *alleged* incidents. However the fraternity has decided to continue with fraternal business as a non-VT affiliated organization. We have strengthened our risk management practices in attempt to avoid future digressions. Elections were held this spring and the following officers were elected:

President:	Sam Rose	Vice President:	Florian Mayer
Treasurer:	Jeff Rose	Secretary:	Andrew McLaughlin
Pledge Master:	Wesley Johnson	Social Chairman:	John Joeckel
Member-at-Large:	Colin Reef	Rush Chairman:	Chris Hotaling
Philanthropy Chair:	Tim Sweet/Matt Wilson	Athletic Chair:	Connor Jarrendt

Meanwhile, the active chapter continues to carry on business as usual and initiated five new members in the Spring. We expect 27 active brothers to return in the Fall. Please welcome our new brothers: Geoff White, John Surotchak, Elias Saljuki, Peter Corrales and Scott Biebert. Finally, we would like to pass on our thanks and best wishes to those brothers who graduated this Spring. This includes Mike Konhya, Tim Hall, VJ Bajwa, Max Padilla and Dave Myers.

DKE House – Repairs and Renovations

House Committee Update: Dan Johnson (Spring '74)

The house lasted another year and turns 99 years old. Last month we undertook some badly needed maintenance and minor upgrade renovations. Work included warranty repair of a persistent attic level bathroom leak; new front door lock; rear kitchen door threshold; front porch re-leveling and repairs; additional kitchen cabinets; fence repairs; structural post repair; and a few other small tasks. In short, the place still looks like the same old fraternity house and we've got our hands full keeping up with the age and the functional demands of a 100-year old frat house.

We have commitments and leases to fill the house next year with 10 residents (the most that have lived in the house since the 1990s). Accordingly we have filed for a building permit to install a new 1st floor bathroom to provide appropriate facilities for our female guests. This installation is expected to cost close to \$10,000, but when completed, will result in suitable facilities that even the alumni would use; far surpassing the backyard fence and infamous urinal trough in the old phone booth. We could sure use your support to make this happen – thanks in advance.

Fully rented house improves financial forecast

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

At the beginning of June the Alumni Association had \$12,828 split between the operating account and the Rampant Lion Foundation - Sigma Alpha Fund (RLF-SA) account. We have been unable to reduce our fully drawn \$75K line of credit loan due to an under-filled house. With the house fully rented this Fall, rents should completely support house operating expenses (mortgage, taxes, insurance). Accordingly we will utilize your capital contributions solely for alumni organization expenses and to undertake improvements and reduce the credit loan. Our budget for the year allocates \$6,000 for Alumni Association operating expenses, newsletters and tailgate expenses. We will still need to support house operating costs until August due to empty rooms. At that point we expect rents to cover house expenses. We hope to end the year with sufficient funding to cover the 1st floor bathroom renovation and partially pay down our line of credit. Remember all donations made out to the RLF-SA Fund are tax deductible!



The 1974-75 pledge classes: now and then

Pledge Class Year Update: Charlie Munn (Fall '74)

FALL 1974 - **George Sisson** had the meanest lean-back, Larry Bird-style jump shot on the DKE basketball squad and led his team deep into the playoffs each year he played. He now runs his family's long-time insurance business in Montross, VA. George had a moustache the envy of every man... and some women, too. Instantly recognized for his Ruthian stature barrel-chest, massive arms, and pipe stem legs, **Dana "Large" Lewis** passed from this life back in 1996 after a too-short career in construction. Dana remains "large" in our memories. **Charlie Munn** was renowned for his cruelty and bloodlust as Pledge Master (OK, kidding about the cruelty part) and for wearing military BDU's long before it was cool and they were sold all sissy-like in the mall. Charlie now lives in Fredericksburg VA and is a hack writer and occasional consultant, but if you want to know what he's doing right now, he's writing a DKE newsletter. **John Segar Hinkle**, who was so elusive as a flanker for DKE in the IFC Flag Football League he once attracted TRIPLE coverage, lives with his three wives... er... one wife Debbie in Richmond. John worked in the building supply industry and recently started up his own company; Dan Johnson spackled him with the label of "The Drywall King of Richmond". If you're a consumer in Virginia, you can sleep easy at night knowing **Mike Wright** is watching out 24/7 for your interests as a honcho in the state's Office of Consumer Affairs. But back in the day we could NOT wake the guy up. Now THAT was a guy who could sleep easy. **John "Smiley" Hill** was the



This is NOT John "Smiley" Hill but we swear it's from his website. We get the eye, but what's that wrapped around his head? A mackerel?

happiest Civil Engineer you'd ever meet (hence the nickname). If you don't believe us check out starmarkinspections.com, a home inspection company Smiley owns in Charlotte, NC and you'll see he's still there... smiling!

WINTER 1975 - **Jack "Buggy" Cullen** was never too good at estimating how many beers he'd had, once saying he'd had "threety-teen" while holding up five fingers. The Blacksburg Police officer did not find that amusing. Now living in Charlottesville VA, he puts those creative numbers skills to good use as an executive for State Farm Insurance overseeing the firm's "estimatics", whatever that is. OK, so **Steve Cronemeyer** looked like a Charlottesville preppy, but now... he's a *Roanoke* preppy if there is such a thing. Steve works in External and Legislative Affairs for Verizon. We swear **Eddie "Dirtball" Scanlon** took at least two baths in his time at DKE, but the human bowling ball of a running back for the DKE footballers now manhandles telecommunications, living in Herndon. Freddy, Jason... all the great horror flick stars wore a mask; but the scariest of all was **Dennis Dreelin**. Wearing a dust mask and wielding a sledgehammer, he led

the remodeling of the DKE house in the mid 70's. Today, Dennis either teaches school in South Carolina or is an architect in Columbus GA...we're just not sure. **Harold "Buzz" Wainman** lived in the "Pit" in the DKE house; luckily for him, his then girlfriend Donna took "Pity" on him and married him. Ouch. Buzzy's now running the Community Relations (code for getting his GED) for the ITT Technical School in Richmond.

SPRING 1975 - **Rick Abraham** today expresses amazement that anybody could live like that (a Deke) and get away with it, especially **Jim Holcombe**. This is after he and his homeys released a pet pig during a DKE party. Rick now lives in Great Falls, VA with his wife, three kids, and no pig where he runs a private elementary school. When **Charlie Phlegar** was DKE President he would always find the money to accomplish our goals. Today, the former Blacksburg "townie" is a VP leading Cornell University's fundraising and alumni relations. Get this: Cornell ranked third in fundraising behind Stanford and Harvard. The Dekes could use his help; last year we were ranked "threety-teen". Charlie's fellow townie and pledge bro **John Boatwright** followed in his dad's footsteps and now is a doctor with the VA Hospital in Roanoke. John was a serious student and we are seriously thankful people like him are taking care of our vets. We're not sure what's happened to John's pledge brother **Jeff Spiegel**, but it has nothing to do with those catalogs our moms used to get. The lingerie pictures were pretty racy, though.

Disrespectfully submitted this sunny day in June: Charles R. Munn III - Sergeant-at-Arms



Thanks again for your continued support!

We would like to thank all those that attended the tailgates, stopped by the house, and particularly those that supported the fraternity financially. In 2009 we had 7 new first time donors, 10 new members of the TEN-YEAR-CLUB, as well as 1 additional Re-Founding Father tier donor. We start a new decade with high hopes of the fraternity and the alumni organization growing both in size and financial stability. Also we ask for your tax-deductible financial support for the 2010 year. Our “voluntary” contribution dues are just \$50/year which goes to support the core costs of the alumni organization operation (newsletters, taxes, social tailgates, and beer).

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