

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



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

October 29, 2011

Alumni Association/Chapter Update

Dan Johnson, Alumni Board Chairman (Spring '74)

Dear fellow DKE/DKS Brothers, Parents and Friends:

The 70th Reunion weekend was a blast, other than the abysmal weather and the VT football team getting their butts kicked by Clemson. Many thanks for those who traveled far and wide to attend. In lieu of our normal Page 3 column, we have summarized the activities and listed all alumni that attended the event. Biggest DKE/DKS gathering yet under one roof (or tent) and our thanks go out to **Charlie Webb** (W'85) once again for doing the yeoman's work on organizing the event. Everyone was so impressed that we have unanimously elected Charlie to organize the next one! and all the ones after that.

We actually got a few nominations for directors. Unfortunately we couldn't find Daffy Duck on our alumni listing. A few of us [**Dan Johnson** (S'74), **Charlie Munn** (F' 74) and **Jim Scanlon** (S'02)] have decided to re-stand for election (i.e. couldn't find any other suckers); and, we convinced a few others to fill the remaining slots. **Mike Beam** (S'85), after we broke his neck, has 'volunteered' to step back in after a six year hiatus to take on the treasurer role. **Jim Daniel** (F' 84) our "in-house counsel" has agreed to step back on the executive board. Many thanks go out to **Roger Leibowitz** (W' 76) who has graciously served as our treasurer for the past four years. We have enclosed a ballot for the biennial election year but it actually requires you to finish reading the newsletter; mark the boxes; cut out the ballot; and mail it back in the enclosed blue envelope. Our non-executive directors are also re-elected automatically unless they opt out. That means for Webb, Bowden, Leslie, Burson, Scanlon, Hutcheson, Hayes, Anderson and Lloyd, are back. You could also take the time to fill out the information card and slip a donation check in there too!

As reported, the chapter lost recognition from the University for five years based on *alleged* charges of underage drinking in the DKE House. The loss of recognition means that DKE, as an organization, is not allowed to utilize university facilities nor participate in IFC functions. As a result of the sanctions, DKE was forbidden to enter a float in this year's homecoming parade, to the disappointment of all the members of the VT-DKE Alumni Homecoming Float Committee. Being an unrecognized fraternity was the status quo for the entire existence of Delta Kappa Sigma years and actually a few years as DKE in well documented cases. While not the preferable situation, it is nonetheless the situation we find our chapter in. As an off-campus fraternity, that owns its own property, it *does* mean that the fraternity has the right to exist and even thrive. Despite the handicaps, the chapter has ten pledges and continued success in recruiting at this level will raise DKE membership levels to more sustainable levels.

We held our first annual parent/alumni/brother "Habitat for Inhumanity" weekend this past summer to tackle some of the needed upkeep and maintenance projects. Special thanks go out to **Bob Snyder** (F'76), **Dan Johnson**, **Theta Bowden** (F'70), **Charlie Webb** and the active chapter members for leading the charge in installing new yard fencing, miscellaneous carpentry repairs; basement lighting and interior/exterior painting work. Over the ensuing weeks leading up to the reunion, the basement dance floor was painted; wood paneling was added to the basement stairs and furnace enclosure area; landscaping undertaken [thanks to generous donation by **Mickey Hayes** (S'62)] and no less the 30 truckloads of trash and junk were hauled off to the dump. Other work carried out during the summer included tree removal, pest/termite control services, and the balance of the interior floor refinishing. All the work resulted in the house "looking as good as it has in years" which really isn't saying much. Besides, the paint is already peeling of the basement wall. Volunteer and help organize the next one. As usual we depend on your support. Please support your fraternity with a financial donation. FFTHF, Dan Johnson, (Spring '74)



VT DKE-DKS Alumni Social Events

Charlie Webb, Social Committee co-Chairman (Spring '85)

The reunion has passed and if you missed it was your fault! See recap below. Our DKE tailgate traditions although carry on. Some 250 alumni, brothers, and guests joined us during the reunion weekend at the tailgate location. Many others have come to the tailgates. A great way to meet and mingle with old friends, and the food and drink is supplied! We also have one home game tailgate to go; VT-UNC game on Thursday night November 17 in Blacksburg. We have combined the tailgate/catering with the Quarter Restaurant in Roanoke so come and enjoy some Creole food. Not very hard to participate, just plan on showing up.

We also have, or will have, tailgate meeting locations for away games at GT in Atlanta, UVA in Charlottesville, ACC Championship Game in Charlotte (no doubt) and the Bowl game. Notices will be by email, so make sure you are on the email list for electronic newsletters. Go to vtdke.com to sign up for electronic news notices. **Buzz Wainman** (F'74) is organizing a pregame gathering in Atlanta at the Vortex Bar & Grill on Peachtree St. starting at 4pm on November 10th. RSVP and contact Buzz at hwainmaniii@msn.com to get added to the Dekes who will be there.

Again, thanks for everyone who attended and participated in the reunion weekend.

Charlie Webb (Spring '85)

Active Chapter Report

Jeff Rose, Chapter President (Fall '08)

We are pleased to announce one of our more successful rush programs in recent history. With a focused and concerted effort we had 21 prospective candidates come to the final closed rush and we gave out 18 bids. Eleven men accepted bids for this semester but one had to drop due to personal family issues. With just a few weeks of the pledge period remaining we have 10 excellent DKE candidates that we hope will form the basis for growing the chapter to higher levels. We hope to build on our success in the Spring and believe we can match our Fall success as several of those that received bids have deferred to the Spring.

We have undertaken several philanthropy programs with the neighboring church and plan on participating in the annual Roanoke Street Cleanup program where we also hold an open house to the public. DKE's has agreed to sponsor/administer a Zombie Run philanthropy that supports the Relay for Life charity. DKE International has made several visits to Blacksburg to visit the Chapter this semester including **Doug Lanpher**, the President, making his third visit in the past three years. DKE United, an online chapter management system supplied by DKE International, has provided a great tool for chapter day-to-day operations.

We continue to make steady improvements to the property and over this semester with the assistance of alumni, have installed pine wood paneling on the basement steps as well as surrounding the gas furnace area. The new fence was completed over the course of the summer. We have instituted a "Scour Hour" each week where every member must attend.

The brotherhood is getting stronger despite our non-recognized status. We have hosted several socials with sororities and the DKE social party calendar continues. We have instituted strict risk-management policies and no underage persons are served alcohol. All parties are managed from an entry standpoint and to maintain noise levels. Despite our efforts we have picked up a noise complaint or two. The house is always open to alumni. The actives thoroughly enjoyed the reunion and it provided the best example of what it means to be a Deke at Virginia Tech (or in politically correct speaking "in Blacksburg"). FFTHF, Jeff Rose (Fall '08)



Financial Report

Roger Leibowitz, Alumni Treasurer (Winter '76)

In my last report as your dutiful treasurer, all I can say is thanks to **Mike Beam** (F'85) for taking this damn job over for the next two years! I am working to clean up the shoe box of DKE financial records and pass over the files to Mike in some sort of organized fashion. We actually do have everything in Quickbooks and some sort of respectable fashion. That's the good news. The bad news is that running a fraternity house is not a very profitable business and is highly dependent on the generosity of the alumni. Please help so I can turn the books over with less red ink.

The house is run as a business by the alumni association and we sign leases with tenants for each of the 8 rooms. Rooms are rented at market rates of \$350-\$400 per month depending on the room size. A full house is essential to the economics as rents received are budgeted to cover mortgage payments, loan interest, property taxes, insurance, and regular maintenance/upkeep which can be substantial for a 100 year-old frat house. Our debt on the property is roughly \$330,000. With all rooms rented we cover expenses depending on the level of property maintenance and upgrade work done. The rest of our spending is either for capital improvements, alumni organization operating costs, and alumni social activities. Operating costs of the alumni association such as: newsletters; website; PO Box fees; organization licenses; and other fees; typically run \$3000 to \$4000 per year. Social expenses are typically the DKE tailgates which are nominally supported by alumni donations specified to the DKE Tailgate Club (however mixed in with general donations) and the reunion weekend while budgeted to be cash neutral, registration fees will likely be \$2000-3000 short of expenses. Significant capital improvements and major maintenance this year included floor refinishing, yard fencing, tree removal, termite/pest service, and residual payments for the guest bathroom. An unexpected and unbudgeted legal bill of \$9100 in the Spring to support the chapter against charges made by the university was something we did not budget for.

We have received donations from 55 alumni so far this year. There is still time! If you made it to the reunion, you have seen what you are supporting. If you didn't make it, there is a penalty cost for not showing up!

Currently we have \$17,400 in our operating account which is mainly from reunion receipts more than offset by reunion payables. We also have roughly \$26,500 in the restricted RLF-SA fund account which we need to accumulate to \$50K before access the funds via a note on the property, effectively borrowing money from ourselves. The proceeds will be used to pay down part of our unsecured demand note as well as provide cash for property maintenance and upgrade. We want to do this before year end so again we ask for your support. FFTHF, Roger

Reunion Weekend Recap

In lieu of our usual page 3 pledge class year *Now and Then* column, we have provided a brief recap of the reunion weekend to add further shame for those who decided not to attend. The tales of DKS/DKS over the decades were shared by all and little justice can be done to all the memories in print. There is a facebook page with photos from the reunion. Look for VT DKE Alumni Association on facebook and download some photos for others to share.

The events started Thursday for a few hardy and ambitious early arrivals for dinner and drinks at the Quarter Restaurant in Roanoke organized by the de-facto mayor of Roanoke, **Charlie Webb** (S '85). Amazing to some of those in attendance were the sordid tales squirrel pies, and other country delicacies still enjoyed to this day from some of our now *former* illustrious alums of Buena Vista (don't let that Lexington address fool ya).

Friday's activities got started with a pre-banquet hospitality suite hosted by the "A Few Old Deeks" [**Dick Anderson** (W '64), **Ben Robison** (F '65) and **Sands Woody** (W '64)] providing an early opportunity to get a start on the evening. The banquet activities started more or less on time at 6pm. A photo reel was run throughout the evening thanks to pictures supplied by numerous alumni and old composites and scrapbooks were available for browsing and



reminiscing. After the obligatory cocktail hour phase, emcee **Theta Bowden** (F'70) directed the evenings 'planned' program activities. **Ed Owens** (F '60) started out with *Tales from the 60's*; and was followed by **Bill Markley** (S '70) *Tales from the 70's* and a recap of his published book, *American Pilgrim*, of his trip from South Dakota to Blacksburg by bus post the 9/11 attacks to attend the 60th reunion. **Doug Lanpher** ('77 Vanderbilt DKE), the DKE International President, was in attendance and gave a short overview of the national fraternity. The re-founding fathers tier donors (\$10K in donations since 1999) were then recognized (vintage Napa wine). This included **Dick Anderson** (W'64), **Jerry Ballangee** (F'60), **Dave Calhoun** (S'76), **Dan Johnson** (S'74), **Cliff Lilly** (W'54), **Will Passan** (S'87), **Jim Scanlon** (W'75), and **Peyton Winfree** (F'85). Alumni Lifetime achievement awards (VT golf shirts) were presented to **Charlie Webb**, **Dan Johnson** and **Mickey Hayes** for their contributions to the fraternity over the past several years. Not missing the chance to pass up the microphone, **Dan Johnson** provided a brief history of the DKE House and the contributions of the Alumni Board members over the past dozen years. **Mickey Hayes** recounted a bit of his history with the fraternity as well as **Ralph English's** (W'60) meeting with the President of VT (Torgersen) trying to explain something "nipple imprints in peanut butter", and wondering "how come we didn't think about that in our days". **Jeff Rose** (Fall '08) the current chapter President introduced the entire active members who bussed in from Blacksburg and the status of the chapter. The actives handed out alumni service plaques recognizing **Theta Bowden**, **Mickey Hayes**, **Dan Johnson**, and **Charlie Webb** for their contributions to the fraternity and in particular organizing the DKE Tailgate Club which hosts tailgates for every home game. As the coup de grace, **Drew Wine** (F'84) and **Hank Scheck** (S'85) performed a two-man, multiple act skit on the "acquisition of BC Moose" complete with name cards and costumes (beard to depict **Theta**) to the amusement of all. All of the Friday night events were of course orchestrated without a hitch by **Theta** who filled in gaps and kept the itinerary running like clockwork.

During the event the Hokie Football team entered the hotel to a round of applause by the all the attendees. Add in some food, drink, deejay, and capped off by a guest appearance by the Hokie Bird it was super evening, yet only half of the weekend's events. A slug of the attendees proceeded to downtown Roanoke bars where they were unceremoniously ejected and ended up at the **Webb** estate until the wee hours of the morning.

Somehow everyone survived, and by car, bus, bike and foot made their way to Blacksburg for Saturday and were joined by even more attendees for the Saturday festivities. An 11:00AM-2:00PM open house at the DKE house started out the day with Bloody Mary's, screwdrivers, mimosas, beer, and even coffee and soft drinks along with a bbq lunch. The house was cleaned up (ok DKE level cleaned up, meaning the ladies/guest bathroom was at least stocked with toilet paper) and quite impressive as a 100-year old structure that has been the home of DKE since 1967! Of course **Bob Dreelin** still maintained that it was cleaner when he lived there (too much dental Novocain is obviously impacting his memory). The scrapbooks, composites, guzzle cups and picture reels were again set up in the house along with many composites that still adorn the walls of the house. The actives provided tours of the house and quite astonishing the work that has been accomplished over the past 5 years, yet no one mistake for being anything other than a frat house. At 2pm the group migrated to Lot 4 next to Lane Stadium for the DKE Tailgate. A large party tent with sides was set up along Southgate Drive providing a little extra room for the 300 plus revelers in attendance. As the weather started to turn colder and a slight rain developed the expanded shelter proved invaluable. Grilled burgers, brats and chicken were served (albeit with a little delay due to the gas grill only partly working initially) along with other food and drink. (noted we need more bourbon next time). With everyone appropriate imbibed and noshed it was VT football time. The weather had turned cold and wet and the VT football team didn't show up taking a 23-3 shellacking. The smart ones were the ones who stayed in the tent or otherwise skipped the game for warmer and drier surroundings.

Not to finish the evening just yet, numerous attendees staying at the Hotel Roanoke managed to reconvene in the hotel bar post game until early Sunday AM. Last count everyone survived and made it home safely. The real story is "you had to be there" as new acquaintances were made and old ones rekindled. For many, it was 10-years or even longer since their last sojourn to Blacksburg and the DKE house. The time was too short to meet everyone you did know, let alone all the other alumni that attended. Here is a list of those that came.



Rick	Abraham	James	Daniel	Paula	Johnson	Jack	Murray	Kathy	Vanness
Chris	Aliff	Barbara	Davis	Wesley	Johnson	John	Murray	Renée	Wagner
Chris	Alphin	Sam	Dibert	Alpin	Kahveci	Brianna	Nielsen	Harold	Wainman
Richard	Anderson	Robert	Dreelin	Paul	Karseras	Ed	Owens	Donna	Wainman
Pam	Anderson	Victoria	Dreelin	Jane	Karseras	Suzanne	Owens	John	Walker
Manly	Aylor	Dennis	Dreelin	Drew	King	Austin	Palmer	Molly	Walker
Jason	Bailey	Aleksander	Drozdetzski	Kristen	Kirkpatrick	Lauren	Palmucci	Josh	Waller
John	Baker	Cary	Dunn	Christopher	Koch	William	Passan	Charles	Webb
Kevin	Bald	Ralph	English	Michael	Konyha	Courtney	Patterson	William	Webb
Raymond	Bartolacci III	Rita	English	Adam	Lackey	William	Pennington	Tom	Wilkinson
Mike	Beam	Dana	Ericksen	Doug	Lanpher	Andrew	Pettit	Matthew	Wilson
Alan	Bennett	Jack	Fisher	Blake	Lassiter	Susan	Phillips Fritzlin	Andrew	Wine
Dan	Bickett	Mary	Fitzgerald	Brittany	Lassiter	Teresa	Rago	Peyton	Winfree
Preston	Blake	Jennifer	Foley	Cathy	Lassiter	Phil	Ratcliff	Sands	Woody
Carly	Blake	Eric	Fortin	Tim	Lassiter	Colin	Reef	Anthony	Zalis
Evan	Blake	Dan	Frith	Courtney	Laughlin	Mike	Renard		
Kathryn	Blake	Stephen	Gillespie	Thomas	Lawall	Bill	Riester		
Mitchell	Blake	Aaron	Gillespie	Debra	Lawall	Ben	Robison		
Taylor	Blake	Cindy	Gillespie	Andrew	Lee	Bill	Rohrer		
Donna	Blosser	Connor	Gillespie	Roger	Leibowitz	Vicky	Rohrer		
John	Boatwright	Betty	Graham	Lloyd	Lenhart	Samuel	Rose		
Sandy	Boatwright	Nancy	Graham	Leonard	Leslie	Jeffrey	Rose		
Roger	Bolick	Jessica	Graham	Joseph	Loss	Laura	Sacco		
James	Borchers	Catherine	Hagan Aylor	Bill	Markley	Todd	Sanders		
Andrew	Borchers	Robert	Hahn	David	Marshall	James T	Scanlon		
Phillip	Bowden	Rick	Hall	Alice	Marshall	James H.	Scanlon		
Peggy	Bowden	Timothy	Hall	David	Marshall	John	Scanlon		
Kevin	Buchanan	Michael	Hall	Billy	Mason	Joseph	Scanlon		
Bert	Burson	Rakin	Hamad	Gwen	Mason	Daniel	Scanlon		
Ronnie	Campbell	Michael	Hawkins	Steve	Mattoon	Henry	Scheck		
Will	Carter	Mickey	Hayes	Henry	Mattox	Michelle	Shuman		
Carrie	Carter	Sarah	Hayes	Florian	Mayer	Bob	Snyder		
Sara	Case	Jennifer	Hedge	Doug	McCarter	Jason	Spooner		
Corey	Caulfield	Karl	Hess	Thayer	McGregor	Ken	Stuart		
Carrie	Chapon	John	Hinkle	Russ	McKinnon	Anne	Stuart		
Mike	Closter	Christopher	Hotaling	Laila	Meftah	John	Surotchak		
Greg	Coffey	Amanda	Huchler	Craig	Moore	Dave	Swanson		
Emma	Cohen	John	Hutcheson	Will	Moore	Tim	Sweet		
Lee	Collins	Mary Dixon	Hutcheson	Sebastian	Moorefield	Jim	Tanner		
Peter	Corrales	Daniel	James	Brett	Moulton	Yvonne	Tanner		
Steve	Cronemeyer	Connor	Jarrendt	Charles	Munn	Ryan	Teti		
Charles	Cubberly	Daniel	Johnson	Matthew	Murray	James	Thomas		



Alumni Board Ballot

The time has come for another election of the board of directors. Your vote is important. We ask that you simply cut out the following ballot and return it in the enclosed envelope by December 1st.

Position – Executive Council	Nominee	For	No
Director and President	Daniel Johnson (Spring '74)		
Director and Treasurer	Mike Beam (Winter '85)		
Director and Secretary	Jim Scanlon (Fall '03)		
Director (Alumni-at-Large)	Charlie Munn (Fall '74)		
Director (Alumni-at-Large)	Jim Daniel (Fall '84)		
Write In Candidate			

We strongly encourage write in ballots as one vote gets you (or someone else) elected to a non-executive council board position. Alumni Historian to document and digitize our history is wanted. Volunteers needed!

Alumni Association of the Sigma Alpha
Chapter of Delta Kappa Epsilon Fraternity
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