

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



P.O. Box 18231, Richmond, Virginia 23226

April 2, 2008

PLEASE UPDATE YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS ONLINE

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.

Last fall we started an electronic newsletter, which we used to announce festivities like the Miami game Alumni Meeting and the Orange Bowl Tailgate. 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.

While you're at it, have a look around on the website... it's updated regularly with photos from the renovation and news about the fraternity and our brothers.



Alumni gathering/open house for Spring Game

Mark your calendars for **Saturday, April 19**: We are arranging an Open House/ Alumni Association Gathering before and after the VT football Spring Game.

We will be showing off the completed attic and second floor renovations (along with the rest of the house improvements). The contractor personnel and architect will be present along with the House Committee members to give tours and answer questions.

Please take the time to visit for some refreshments, to view the renovation progress and see brothers. Families are welcome. We had a large turnout for the Alumni Meeting last fall and hope to repeat it!



The DKE House needs your generosity

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

Let me start by recognizing the incredible accomplishments of our past President, Dan Johnson. Dan stepped in when our Association and the fraternity house needed him most. He had the vision for what the house could become and the determination to make it happen. He put in countless hours working with the architect, resolving zoning issues with the town, personally arranging financing, bidding the work and supervising construction. We all need to thank Dan for his hard work and strong leadership.

Now it is time for the rest of us to do our part to ensure the success of our fraternity for the future. The Capital Campaign has gotten off to a strong start, but we still have a long way to go. Thanks to the generosity of about 100 of our brothers we are close to the halfway point.

That means it is time for everyone else to pull out his checkbook and make a tax-deductible contribution to the fund. Do it now, right now. Do it to thank Dan, do it in appreciation of all the great times you had at the house, do it for the future of our fraternity. But just do it.



And after you make your donation, make plans to come down to Blacksburg for the Spring Game on April 19. It will be a great time to catch up with old friends and see the great improvements to the house. Please be sure to register your e-mail address through our website, www.vtdke.com, so we can send you the latest information on upcoming activities.

FFTHF,

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

DKE House attic renovation completed

House Committee Update: Dan Johnson (Spring '74)

Your Board of Directors recently formed a House Committee to look after the renovation and operation of YOUR fraternity house. The members are Lynn Leslie (Winter '88), Sam Dibert (Spring '04) and Dan Johnson (Spring '74).

We have completed the next phase of renovation work, accomplishing the following:

- Renovation of attic level into 3 rooms plus a sitting area - framing, electrical, drywall (high abuse), painting, wall-to-wall carpet installation
- Installation of a full bathroom facility on the attic level w/ tile floor, sink, toilet and shower (handicap accessible even!)
- Reinforcement and structural repairs of attic level floor with secondary floor joist system installed
- Installation of new staircase up to attic level
- Renovation of second floor bedrooms and associated closets to accommodate new staircase
- Complete renovation of the second floor bathroom including new flooring, walls, shower, sink and toilet
- Installation of three new windows for two bathrooms and first floor bedroom
- Installation of fire sprinkler system for entire house including exterior porches complete with monitoring contract
- Exterior fire system shut off valve per latest NFPA codes
- Installation of two HVAC units and associated ductwork for second floor and attic level
- Replacement of all second floor bedroom doors with metal frames and solid core doors
- Removal of veranda room wall to enlarge and open up the second floor hallway, repair of hallway floor, installation of recessed ceiling lighting
- Removal of redundant radiator piping
- Repair and reinstallation of exterior fence
- Removal and backfilling of "keg pit" on exterior (Penn Street side of house)
- Town of Blacksburg building inspections and Fire Marshall approvals of all work completed to date
- Final sprinkler system inspection completed
- Certificate of Occupancy pending which will legitimize resident occupancy of up to 16 people.

These renovations allow for a permanent 30-50% reduction in our insurance costs for the installation of the sprinkler system and will allow for a 60% increase in rental income.

Capital costs to undertake this phase exceeded our expectations due to the unexpected structural requirements for the attic floor system as well as other minor scope changes. They have also exceeded the pace of our capital campaign donations.

We greatly need your continued support, funding of previous pledged amounts, 2008 dues contributions, etc. to



have the second year of our two year campaign match the first year, helping us reach our goal of \$200,000! Please send your annual dues and a generous donation to the Capital Campaign today. We will acknowledge all donors via our website, this newsletter and a plaque in the house upon completion.

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

\$80,000 received, \$35,000 pledged, \$85,000 to go

Capital Campaign Update: Charlie Lloyd (Fall '68)

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

The campaign kicked off in earnest with the mailing of the campaign brochure in late July 2007. This is a two year effort to raise \$200,000 to complete renovation of the fraternity house. The campaign carries on with a slow and systematic effort to reach individual brothers by phone, newsletters and at football games and other Deke gatherings. We are pleased to provide the following update.

As of March 15, 2008 we have received almost \$80,000 in donations from about 80 brothers. We also have pledges for over \$35,000 from another 25 brothers. Guys, let's get those pledges in! We once again

implore the other 400 brothers to send in their checks as soon as possible. We also ask those who already sent in pledges to add another donation during the next year if at all possible.

We realize there are a number of good and valuable ways to spend your contribution dollars. We also hope you will recall those fond memories of your time in the fraternity during its first 65 years, and will help us continue the organization for the next 65 years. In the next newsletter we will publish a full list of campaign contributors. **WE NEED TO RAISE ANOTHER \$85,000 IN THE NEXT 12 MONTHS TO COMPLETE THE CAMPAIGN.** We hope all our over 500 brothers will be on that list.

As mentioned in previous newsletters, we have established a 501(c)(3) organization linked as part of DKE International's fund to make all donations tax deductible. Similar to giving to Virginia Tech, the **Rampant Lion Foundation - Sigma Alpha Fund** is eligible for matching gifts for corporations that have such a program.

Thank you very, very much to all who have supported this effort.

Charlie Lloyd, Capital Campaign Chairman, Fall '68
San Diego, California
charlielloyd@cox.net

Give Now
Make checks out to:
Rampant Lion Foundation-Sigma Alpha Fund
Send checks to:
P.O. Box 18231
Richmond, VA 23226

12 pledges for Spring 2008

Active Chapter Update: Sam Dibert (Spring '05)

As work on the attic finishes, all the brothers are very excited for next year. We currently have 23 active brothers and a 12-man Spring pledge class. We are also losing only three brothers to graduation, so we look to start the next year with over 30 brothers. As the house improves and our numbers grow, we continue to work hard to improve the Fraternity.



We recently held annual elections and our officer slate for 2008-09 is listed below. These brothers will take office following Formals at the end of the April:

President:	Mike Field (Fall '04)
Vice President:	Jack Scanlon (Fall '05)
Secretary:	Max Padilla (Spring '06)
Treasurer:	Joe Goodrich (Fall '05)
Member-at-Large/Risk Management:	Tim Latham (Spring '07)
Rush Chairman:	Mike Simenauer (Fall '07)
Pledgemaster:	Matt Murray (Spring '07)
Social Chairman:	Patrick Mellonas (Fall '06)

We look forward to welcoming everyone at the Spring Game Open House. Thank you for your support.

Sam Dibert, Active Chapter President, Spring '05
Blacksburg, Virginia
sdibert@vt.edu

Improving Alumni-Active coordination

Your Alumni Association continues to increase its involvement and coordination with the Active Chapter in Blacksburg. By doing so, we are providing the actives with the resources, facilities and support to reach the goals established in our December 2004 Strategic Plan. (See www.vtdke.com/alumni to read the Strategic Plan.) We want you to know how we are fulfilling these responsibilities.

We continue work on our goal of providing long-term maintenance and expansion of the house. Our renovations provide additional living space, extra rental income and build on the house as a center of activity. The new sprinkler system ensures the safety of our active brothers and lowers our insurance costs. Structural and cosmetic work improves the House's appearance, attracting new brothers. Maintenance contracts ensure these benefits last for years to come.

Our next mission is to increase the Active Chapter's size to 40-50 brothers, providing financial and operational stability. Over the past year, Alumni Board members have begun working closer with their active counterparts, but these efforts will expand this fall, when we will hold our first DKE summer retreat. Alumni Board members will join the incoming active leadership for a planning weekend to establish an operational framework for the coming year, including budgets, rush plans, reviewing bylaws and other organizational work.

Our thanks go out to Lynn Leslie (Winter '88) for volunteering to serve as Active Chapter Advisor in Blacksburg. We appreciate Lynn's help in keeping an eye on the House and providing guidance to the actives. We also thank advisor emeritus Jack Hutcheson for his many years of service in this role and for continuing as our Faculty Sponsor.

Renovation photos online

Don't forget to visit the new website at www.vtdke.com to view current construction photos and catch up on the latest news about the Alumni Association, the Active Chapter and the brotherhood.

The website is updated frequently and we welcome new content submissions and suggestions. Please send items to Jim Scanlon (Spring '02) at jtscanlon@gmail.com.

Currently we're working on building our Links section - please let us know if you'd like a link to your company or personal website to appear on our website.



Financial update

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

The 2007 year-end financial statements are just now being finalized, and we expect to have a set for your review in our next newsletter (I'm sure that will keep everyone on the edge of their seats). A brief overview is as follows:

As of March 31, 2008:

Operating account cash:	\$ 950.69
Rampant Lion Fund	<u>\$ 9,188.23</u>

Total resources available \$10,138.92

Accounts payable, Construction	\$ 98,558.00
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Immediate cash needs to cover renovation expenses incurred but unpaid is approximately \$ 89,000.00. We have used a temporary bridge loan to cover the shortfall but that will not work on a long term basis.

Rampant Lion Foundation - Sigma Alpha Fund Summary

Total donations received from inception (Summer 2006)	\$ 79,788.23
Total distributions for renovation	<u>(70,600.00)</u>
Net currently available for future distributions	\$ 9,188.23

In short, we need you to send in your donations!

A full set of financial statements will be included in our next communication. Please let me know if you have any questions.

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



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