

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



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

January 10, 2014

Alumni Association/Chapter Update

Dan Johnson, Alumni Board Chairman (Spring '74)

Dear Fellow DKE/DKS Brothers, Parents and Friends:

The belated Holiday Season version of the DKE newsletter is here. After another nail-biting, close election we are pleased to announce the DKE Alumni Board was swept back in to for another two year sentence. Immediately upon hearing the election results, **Jim Scanlon** F'03, our esteemed Alumni Board Secretary over the past 6 years, immediately called for a recount. After re-examining all the returned ballot(s), Jim vehemently noted that the circle marks surrounding his name weren't actually fully surrounding it and should be thrown out. After carefully scrutinizing the recount process, the board had few options other than to declare Jim unelected. Not to fear though, as the Board's succession planning worked to a T and **Jeff Rose** (F'08) has courageously stepped up from his Alternate Director position and has been formally demoted in to the executive level Board Secretary role. In all seriousness, we would like to thank Jim for his service as a DKE Alumni Board Member and in particular for developing and maintaining the VTDKE.com website and being personally responsible for sending you all those annoying email newsblasts over the past several years.

The other newly imprisoned executive board members, serving 2-more-years to life sentences, include: **Dan Johnson**, Chairman; **Mike Beam**, Treasurer; **Jeff Rose**, Secretary; **Charlie Munn** and **Jim Daniel**, Members-at-Large; and **Sam Rose**, Alternate Director. We encourage anyone who is interested to join to the Board as executive or non-executive directors to do so. All are welcome, and you get to participate in all the captivating discussions and the inner workings of the multi-faceted enterprise. Please volunteer by putting your name on the card and returning in the envelope. We will accept your DKE Annual Fund donation as an alternative to joining the Board, however a no-response will get you on the next ballot!

Our Page 3 Now and Then column is penned by **Mickey Allen** (F'70) and is a remembrance note about **Jerry Bryant** who passed away recently after a brief battle with pancreatic cancer. Jerry B will be missed. was effectively the DKE Alumni organization at the onset. We also pass along the sad news of the recent passing of **Vernor Vines** ('53) and Kathy Bradley (wife of **Chuck Bradley** (F'76)). Our thoughts are with the Bryant, Vines and Bradley families.

The active chapter initiated 11 new members last semester, a well needed boost to the active roster. We also completed our 6th DKE Tailgate Club season in Lot 4 culminating with the purchase of a 20' x 30' tent and tailgate organization that was uncharacteristic of the normal chaos. A recap of the season is below. Many thanks to all of you that: attended the tailgates or visited by the DKE house; made a donation at a DKE Tailgate; and/or donated to the 2013 DKE Annual Giving Fund. If you for some unknown, unexplainable reason have forgotten to make a donation this past year there is still time! Our generous Treasury department is willing to count any \$100+ tax-deductible donation made in January as both a 2013 and 2014 donation and be counted for both years!

As a constant reminder I would like to point out that the DKE house is still standing and is/was lit up for the holiday season! Drop in at any time. The guys have done some recent work on refinishing the floors and painting the interior including some actual artistic flair on the basement walls. The place is always in need of furniture and if you are remodeling and have some surplus stuff let us know and we can make arrangements to fetch it. We are looking to organize our 4th annual Habitat for Inhumanity house repair weekend this Spring. If you want to participate (or even lead the effort) drop us a line.

FFTHF, Dan Johnson



DKE Tailgate Club Season Recap

Charlie Webb, Still Retiring Social Chairman (Spring '85)

Another so-so year in VT Football, but that did not put a damper on the DKE Tailgates. The tradition continues to grow and this past year the attendee list was even larger than years past. Seemed to be a different crowd of alumni every week (and of course **Theta**) and overall we had 126 'recorded' (which is about 80% of reality) different Dekes and little sister/sweetheart alumni came by this year. If you weren't there, we put together a list of those that we have a record of attending to see who you missed; and surprisingly if you were there for just one game, you can see who you missed on the other weeks. We rented a large tent for several of the games and for the last game made the leap and purchased a 20x30' DKE tailgate tent. With the large tent, the chapter can set the tent up the day before and take it down the day after, greatly easing the organizational chaos on game day. Also instituted a more formalized sign in sheet and donation box at the tailgate for folks to chip in and help defray some of the food/booze costs. Again many thanks for those who attended and those who contributed.

Dan Johnson	Paula Johnson	Mike Beam	Debbie Beam
Colin Reef	Andrew McLaughlin	Wesley Johnson	Tony Palumbo
Steve Cronemeyer	Sam Rose	Jeff Rose	Florian Mayer
Rakin Hamad	Eric Fortin	Mike Renard	Mark Giebel
Bill Mason	Russ McKinnion	Ray Sterne	Temple Moore
Joe Lenzi	Hank Mattox	Mickey Hayes	Ryan McMahon
Mike Konyha	Burt Burson	Chris Hotaling	Adam Read
Jack Hutcheson	Theta Bowden	Laurie Morgan Johnson	Sam Dibert
Patrick Mellonas	Elliott Fouts	Bob Snyder	Dennis Dreelin
Buzz Wainman	Craig Moore	Steve McNair	Craig Scimeca
Linda Scimeca	John Huddleston	Kevin Bald	Charlie Webb
John Torpey	Connor Jarrendt	Peyton Winfree	John Boatwright
Rick Abraham	Dave Zentmeyer	John Hinkle	Roger Leibowitz
Jim Scanlon	Drew Deifenderfer	Ryan Cusick	Jim Day
Debbie McFee	Jim McDonald	Josh Waller	Jason Spooner
Tim Sweet	Kyle Blevins	Charlie Cubberly	Joey Loss
Joe Scanlon	Danny Scanlon	Jack Scanlon	AJ Zalis
Mark McNees	Stephen Yee	Dave Marshall	Jose Lucayo
Sebastian Moorefield	Rohan Elwadhi	Austin Palmer	Corey Caulfield
Cole Samuels	Brendan Murphy	Ray Sterne	Connor Sterne
Evan Miller	Bret Fortin	Tae Choi	Luke Stanish
Robert Hahn	Mark Lenzi	Tyler Seguire	Garrett Lally
Garrett Godshall	Cameron Longuire	Will Adams	Jeff Chambliss
Daniel Karch	Jake Raiten	Tighe Chemidlin	Christopher Koch
Brian Moody	Phil Harris	Mark Gregory	Mike Hawkins
Kevin Buchannon	William Webb	Ann Murray	Jennifer Hedge
Susan Phillips Fritzen	Dave Swanson	Mark Herbele	Lori Sterne
Billy Rush	Sam Barnett	Trae Harding	Trevor Donahue
Jill McKinnon	Preston Blake	Brian Hoffman	Dave Myers
Ben Robeson	Matt Wilson	Dan Sexton	Alex Maier
Mike Field	Taz Whitley		

If we missed your name, it was because you didn't write it down! Also, lots of guesswork of "anyone know who that guy is?"



Now and Then – Remembering Jerry Bryant

Mickey Allen (Winter '70)

Before I start, I need to confess that the memories and images are rich, but the words are much harder to shape than I ever imagined.

Jerry B was a special friend and a great Deke. Like all of us, Jerry was only an “active” brother for a few short years, but active he was. Whether you were an alum from the 60’s stopping by 302 E Roanoke Street to try to capture a moment from your misspent youth, a visiting Zeta from down the street just stopping by to see what was happening at the Deke House or a brother taking a “study break” by the upstairs tap, you were likely to be greeted by Jerry B. He was not there to be seen. He was not there to be cool. He was there to share a few precious moments with a friend or to explore a new relationship. On the rare occasion when an uninvited or over served guest wore out his welcome, it is very likely that Jerry may have even helped him find the exit. In many ways he was the face of the fraternity then and continued to be until October 6, 2013. Everyone seemed to know Jerry B. He stood out without really trying to do so.

For those of you who knew Jerry well, you know that there was so much about him that was not subtle. He didn’t mind getting in your face a little and you normally knew where Jerry stood on any given subject. If he was your friend, you knew he had your back. He was a great teammate and team player who didn’t like to lose, but mostly hated to let the team down. You always knew how he felt about “the French” from Charlottesville. Obviously, he loved the Hokies and Virginia Tech with a passion, and he was proud to show it in his own unique way. The last time I saw Jerry was September 7 at the Western Carolina game. As he often did, Jerry cruised by my tailgate with his son, Travis, just to say hello and ask how my family and I were doing. He never mentioned that he was feeling a little weak. He was wearing his trademark Orange sneakers (“the shoes never lose”), coaches shorts and “the hat”. The hat was a little soiled, but Jerry wore it with pride to every VT event he attended since 1987.

Even those who knew Jerry B best may not have seen the deeper side of his character very often. Beneath the somewhat gruff exterior, Jerry was a man who loved his family deeply. He was always there for his three great kids and he was always there for his wife, Brenda. Despite the demands of work and caring for Brenda, he somehow found time for coaching soccer and basketball for his children and hundreds of other kids over a twenty-five year span. Many of those kids were at his memorial service in October to honor the man they knew as Coach Bryant. Jerry was also a man of quiet but strong faith. He often referenced “the big guy” in conversations with me and backed that up with 31 years of service to his church, attending regularly and serving as an usher for most of those years. While I never discussed his church with Jerry, somehow it makes perfect sense that he was there every Sunday to welcome old friends and to offer a hand to strangers.

There are so many more memories that keep jumping into my consciousness and I am sure you have yours as well. But the final thought I want to leave with each of you and especially for myself is that you never know when you may be saying your last casual “see you later” to a friend or loved one. Make sure your friends know that you care for them. Make sure your family knows that you love them. Live your life like you would like to be remembered. Jerry B did.

FFTHF,

Mickey Allen



Active Chapter Report

Joey Loss, Chapter President (Fall '10)

Dear Brothers,

Failure was not an option for the Dekes in the fall 2013 semester. In the summer we discussed our chapter's high spirits and expectations coming into the 2013-2014 academic year and I am extremely proud to say that we not only met, but significantly exceeded our goals for the fall semester. We have successfully initiated eleven new brothers (all freshmen) as well as added previously inactive brother into the Sigma Alpha chapter roster. Rush chairman **Evan Miller '16** took his role to a new level and absolutely knocked rush out of the park. His immense organization, planning and presence for all events had a colossal effect on our results. We look forward to the opportunity to successfully spot and invite the next wave of Gentlemen, Scholars and Jolly Good Fellows with this Spring's rush.

In addition to a great rush and pledging period we have almost completely renovated the interior of the house. After our tailgate season came to an end, the active brotherhood discussed how we could improve things for next year -- for the spring, and most importantly for the 2014 football season. We discussed how the house was far from inviting to anyone over the age of 25; and while it's a stretch to say the Deke house will ever be family friendly around the clock; we wanted to work on the house and give it a personality which leaves us the opportunity to clean up and invite alumni and their families to enjoy our house not with worry, but with pride. The walls of the entire first and second floors of the house have been repainted and the floors sanded and stained, all by the hands of Deke brothers and the chapter Little Sister/Sweethearts. As a result, the house has a much classier feel to it. This is a project we aim to continue working on in the Spring.

We also participated in a new philanthropy this semester called Movember, which raises money for men's health during the month of November. Dekes across the nation grew our mustaches in support of men's health, and friends and families of participants were able to donate to the foundation in appreciation of the participating member's mustache. We finished the philanthropy in third place among Deke chapters across the nation, with a grand total raised of \$1,201 in support of Men's Health. We were thrilled with our success considering it was our first go around. Next year we expect to place even higher.

In summary, the chapter has positive momentum. Pride is extremely high in the chapter because we continue to set goals and crush them. I can only imagine that this Spring will be a duplication of what was achieved this fall, and then some, as we have the help of 11 eager new Dekes. Keep your eyes peeled for a post on the main website with pictures of the massive house project (before, during and after shots will be included). We look forward to seeing many of you at the Spring Game and the Habitat for Inhumanity house improvement.

In the bonds, Joey Loss

Treasurer's Report

Mike Beam, Alumni Treasurer (Winter '85)

Once again, I would like to thank all who have made donations during 2013, whether it be cash, services or time, it all helps our Fraternity! We had 120 donors (including Brothers, Little Sisters, and Friends & Family) contribute just over \$25,000 in cash and services during the year (\$20,000 of that total donated by 68 brothers went into our Rampant Lion Fund). We want to continue to strive to push the number of donors to our RLF fund over 100 for the next year. Of special notation is **Peyton Winfree**, whose generous 2013 donation has propelled him into the



esteemed "Scholarship Tier" ranking with a cumulative giving in excess of \$25,000.

During 2013, we continued to support the DKE House (\$13,000+ in porch/column repairs was completed early in the year), our Alumni (new tailgate club tent and sponsoring tailgate and other social events), and the Active Brothers (\$500 academic scholarship, financial scholarship support for the DKE annual convention, and guidance in managing routine bills & DKE International commitments).

Heading into 2014, we continue to expect a full house of active brothers paying rent which will take care of the basic financial commitments (mortgage, insurance, taxes, etc), but of course we still have some hefty debt that we are dealing with. Based on contributions made in 2013, we will look to secure another investment loan (approximately \$30k) backed by our RLF fund to begin chipping away at our \$75k equity line, and provide more working capital for other upcoming house repairs and alumni functions.

Once again, you can use the enclosed envelope to send in your tax deductible contribution to our RLF fund. Your continued support is critical to help build up our capital fund so that we can continue to pay down our debt and fund necessary improvements to our beloved DKE House on 302 E. Roanoke St. Please consider donating and helping us get off to a great start this year for DKE Annual Giving Fund!

Thanks again for your continued support. FFTHF, Mike

We would like to recognize our key supporters of the 2013 DKE Annual Giving Fund. The list of our generous donors who contributed in excess of \$50 to the 2013 DKE Annual Giving Fund and/or the DKE Tailgate Club in 2013 include the following brothers:

Barry Bishop	Ben Robison	Bill Driskill	Bob Snyder
Brian Hoffman	Charles Bradley	Charlie Munn	Charlie Phlegar
Cliff Phillips	Daniel Johnson	Daniel James	Daniel Sexton
Dave Mason	David Church	David Holliday	David Rayburn
Elliott Fouts	Erik Gordon	Floyd Adams	George Eberwine
George Sisson	Gerald Augst	Greg Carneal	Hank Mattox
Harold Cothran	James (Jim) Baker	James Day	James Dekorte
James Wright	Jeff Bowman	Jeff DeSchon	Jeff Rose
Jerry Ballengee	Joe Czul	John (Jack) Baker	John (Jack) Cullen
John Collins	John Crawford	John (Jack) Hutcheson	Lewis/Joey Loss
Michael Hawkins	Michael Smith	Mickey Hayes	Mike Miller
Patrick King	Patrick Mellonas	Paul Rinaldi	Peyton Winfree
Ralph English	Raymond Huntington	Rich Bomgardner	Robert Dreelin
Robert Sullivan	Ronnie Campbell	Russell McKinnon	Sam Dibert
Scott VanVoorhees	Sean Johnson	Stephen Gadinis	Stephen Yee
Steve Cronmeyer	Temple Moore	Thomas Lawall	Tim Latham
Wesley Johnson	William Atwell	Chris Hotaling	Steve Mattoon
Andrew McLaughlin	Billy Mason	Burt Burson	Charlie Webb
Troy Turner	Mike Beam	Jim Scanlon	Mark Giebel
Eric Fortin	Dick Anderson		

Thank you for your support!



Tae Choi - 2013 Dave Calhoun Scholarship Winner

We are pleased to announce the winner of the 2013 **Dave Calhoun** Scholarship Award is **Tae Choi**. The scholarship is awarded each year (OK this is the second year) to the DKE House resident with the highest GPA in the fall semester. The scholarship is used to promote the idea that academics and a fraternity house lifestyle can go hand in hand. **Tae Choi** is currently a Junior at VT. He also holds down a part-time job in the meantime, and as in his first year living in the DKE House is in the infamous "Pit" room on the first floor while pulling a 3.73 last semester. Congratulations! Previous winner of the inaugural award last year was **Andrew McLaughlin** who survived and prospered academically living three years at the DKE House.

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