

# Alumni of the Sigma Alpha Chapter of

# Delta Kappa Epsilon

P.O. Box 18231, Richmond, Virginia 23226



September 22, 2007

#### Dear Alumni Brothers,

Football season is upon us again, though after the debacle in Baton Rouge, who knows how we will go. VT Football means that many of us return to Blacksburg on a regular basis for the games and an occasional meeting with our fellow fraternity alumni. While the tailgating scene has long ago migrated to the stadium parking lots, a few stragglers still find their way back to the fraternity house. We have set in motion for plans to establish a DKE-DKS Alumni tailgate location in Lot 1, but it will be next season to before we get ourselves organized. Special thanks in advance to Alumnus Mickey Hayes, who has agreed to obtain a pair of prime parking places that can be used as the DKE/DKS fraternity tailgate location.

The 2007-2008 capital campaign has been kicked off last month. As of this writing we have received pledges and donations in excess of \$80,000 from the initial portion of the campaign. We still have a long way to go to reach our goals and to catch up with our spending habits. The interior renovations on the second floor and attic levels started in July, and our goal is to have the expanded an renovated second and third floors complete to increase occupancy and rental income for 2008-2009 school year.

### DKE Alumni Association Board of Directors Election & Annual Meeting

After much jockeying and platform positioning the nominating period has led to an experienced slate of alumni that have been nominated to serve the Alumni Association for the next two years. They are running against that perennial tough party of "No Volunteers", not to be confused with the Tennessee football team. Please indicate your voting preference by voting on the ballot below, cutting out and returning by November 1, 2007 in the enclosed envelope. Your votes are counted and write-in campaigns are welcome. The results of election will be announced at the Annual Alumni Meeting scheduled for a time 2 hours prior to the Miami game kickoff on November 17th, in Blacksburg at the Fraternity house at 302 East Roanoke Street. The house is a short 10-minute walk from the stadium.

DIRECTORS/OFFICERS NOMINEES AND BALLOT		
Position	Nominee	Ballot Vote – Please circle
Director & President	Jim H. Scanlon (W'76)	For Against Abstain
Director and Treasurer	Roger Leibowitz (W'76)	For Against Abstain
Director and Secretary	Tom Overton (S'85)	For Against Abstain
Director (Alumni-at-Large)	Jim Daniel (Fall '83)	For Against Abstain
Director (Alumni-at-Large)	Jim T. Scanlon (Fall '01)	For Against Abstain
Write-in Candidate		

These alumni will serve two year terms until a new Board is seated following the next election in 2009. In addition the current Fraternity President, Sam Dibert, will join the board for a one year term.

Also there are a variety of non-executive directors that have volunteered to serve in adjunct roles over the course of the next two years. While I plan to turn over the reins to Jim Scanlon next month, I have agreed to continue to serve on the Board in a nonexecutive role serving with Charlie Lloyd on the Capital Campaign and directing the house renovation contractors. Special thanks also go out to Charlie Munn who has dutifully served us all as treasurer for the past two years. Charlie didn't bounce a single check in his entire tenure and more importantly found a replacement in Roger Leibowitz after a single term running our hedge fund. Charlie was instrumental in getting the Rampant Lion Foundation - Sigma Alpha Fund up and established. Other thanks go out to 'retiring' executive board members Jack Hutcheson, who also served as the chapter faculty advisor role. Jack has also agreed to stay on in a non-executive role. We are also pleased to announce that Lynn Leslie '91 (along with '01 and '03 degrees from VT) who recently moved back to the Blacksburg area, has agreed to join the board in an non-executive role and more importantly as Chapter Advisor providing local guidance to the chapter and arranging for bail bondsmen as required.

#### **House Reconstruction Efforts**

In July, the Alumni Association contracted with Atmosphere Builders Inc of Blacksburg to undertake the initial interior construction work on the second floor and attic levels. The plan to stage the work was set back when the Town of Blacksburg indicated that their previous approval was for the entire job only and could not be split. Therefore we obtained a building permit for the entire designed work for the second and third floor including the installation of a handicap-accessible bathroom on the attic level as dictated by the town (all one has to do is negotiate two flights of stairs in their wheel chair first!). As such we have been carrying on in earnest to complete the work on the second floor to allow the residents to return to their rooms. After a week of sleeping downstairs in the chapter room, the two impacted bedrooms were sufficiently completed and the residents moved in on the first of September, only two weeks behind schedule. Remodeling on the second floor bathroom was further delayed by the late delivery of the shower stall but should be complete by the time you are reading this.

Demolition work at the attic level revealed a structurally deficient flooring system. Not only were the floor beams longer than current building code practices allowed, but previous "remodeling" work resulted in several notched beams and numerous piping/wiring holes cut through the beams to accommodate all kinds of less-than-stellar construction work. As a result the entire flooring was removed and a second set of beams were installed to carry the floor loading. Other modifications included steel beam braces to accommodate drain pipe routing for the planned bathroom for the attic. Finally, due to 100 years of differential settlement, a 4-inch difference in floor level existed from one side to the other. This condition was corrected (at least the floor is level now) with the installation of the new load bearing beam network. The floor has since had new insulation installed and been sheeted with flooring board plywood. Unfortunately, these unexpected structural repairs resulted in significant additional costs that exceeded our original plans as well as delaying the completion of the second floor bedroom modifications.

A new staircase has been installed to provide access to the attic level from the second floor hallway. HVAC units for both the attic level and second floor bedrooms will be installed later this month. Subdividing of the attic and the overall fire protection sprinkler system remain to be done. We also had Home Depot install three new windows replacing the old bathroom windows on both floors as well as the remaining large window in the downstairs bedroom. A lot has been done, and the plans are to complete the permitted work before we tackle the first floor and basement levels.

#### 2007-2008 Capital Campaign Progress: (Charlie Lloyd - Campaign Chairman)

The campaign kicked off in earnest with the mailing of the campaign brochure in late July. This is a two year effort to raise over \$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. To date we have received over \$80,000 in donations and pledges from about 60 alumni since the campaign began, inclusive of the core donations made by the Board of Directors members. We are very grateful to all of you. We would implore all of the over 500 brothers whose name is not on the list to contribute to our efforts and send in their check as soon as possible. We also ask those that are in the Sigma Alpha Club to consider adding to their contribution to bring it up to the next level. Below is a list of contributions and pledges received since mid-2006.

Mickey Hayes Mark Heberle Dan Johnson William 'B' Passan Jim H. Scanlon

## Sigma Alpha Club (\$100 - \$1,000)

None

#### Rampant Lion Club (\$1,000-\$5,000)

Presidents Club (\$5,000-10,000)

Dick Anderson
Bill Atwell
Lee Barksdale
Jerry Ballengee
Chuck Bradley
Bert Burson
Lee Collins
Jim Daniel
Jim Day
Chuck Davies

Jerry Augst
Bruce Beam
Robert Berry
Jim Borchers
Steve Bright
Greg Carneal
Bob Dreelin
Bill Driskill
Steve Gadinis
Neil Garrett
John Hinkle
Ray Huntington
Bill Lewis
Keith Loehlein
Dave Malcolm

Jack Hutcheson

Charlie Lloyd

Charlie Munn

Tom Overton

Bob Snyder

Cliff Lilly

Russell McKinnon Scott Pennington Bob Phillips Cliff Phillips Kenneth Poore Jim T. Scanlon Dick Quible Paul Rinaldi Craig Scimeca Jim Sutphin Stanley Thompson Paul Thomson John Walker Charlie Webb Willy White Peyton Winfree Mike Zanetti

Dave Mason

#### Corporate Matching Gifts

Lincoln Financial Verizon Wachovia

#### New Scholarship Endowment Tier (\$25,000+)

Per popular request (we hope!) we have added another tier level of donation giving. Contributions at this level will be used to fund the campaign as well as academic and leadership scholarships for active fraternity brothers. Scholarships will be named after the donor(s) and are earmarked to be paid in the form of housing rent payments. Similarly, all the rooms in the house (with the exception of the Theta Bowden Chapter Room), including the DKE bar in the basement are still available for namesake patrons.

#### In Memorial

With regrets, pass on word of the recent death of E. Roderick Hayes '61 in November of last year. Any of those who wish to share some memories of Brother Hayes we would be glad to include your thoughts in the next newsletter.

Also, in May of this year Charles Herbert Marshall III passed away in Maryland. "Doc" Marshall was a DKE from the chapter at Yale University and came to VT as a graduate student in 1976. Disco Doc will be remembered from his VT days for shattering the color barrier at the local Sigma Alpha chapter and bringing disco dancing to the DKE basement. Dekes became a better place because of Doc's presence there, but graciously the disco music was banned from most DKE parties saving embarrassment from all of us born with two left feet. Our hearts and thoughts go out to the families and friends of our fallen comrades.

#### Treasurer's Report (Charlie Munn)

Well, this is my last Treasurer's report to you jolly good fellows...sigh. Just a few more bags of cash to load in my car before I head for the airport to make my final deposit on that dream home in the islands. I would say its been a great 2 years, but it seems like sooooo much longer.

My anointed successor, Roger "The Pillager" Leibowitz will take office shortly, as soon as I finish rigging the voting. I know Roger is eager to get started, as he hasn't been able to hold a steady accounting job since Enron. You think I did a good job? Wait till Mr. Ponzi gets his arms around this racket! He's a "real" accounting guy.

Since the IRS reads this newsletter, here's some "official" news. We truly have made a lot of important progress in our finances over the past 2 years. The recent refinance of our house mortgage allowed us to wipe out our first mortgage and a number of debts related to improvements made last year. While our primary mortgage debt increased by \$50K, the added payments are covered by the rental income from the actives living in the house. When the additional space is finished, the count on brothers in the house can increase further, giving us plenty of long term upside to cover all of the house expenses the alumni have been previously carrying via donations.

Contributions are up over the same period last year as brothers begin to respond to the Capital Campaign and our new tax-exempt status (REMEMBER: ALL DONATIONS ARE 100% DEDUCTIBLE!!!). You can read more about all that in the separate section on the campaign, but I would ask you former drunks to give till you puke. Remember: we have pictures of you and that fat chick! But the costs of improvements are outstripping the campaign income so we are proceeding in fits and starts to accommodate our rate of income. When the dust settles we will have spent \$200K, so please get out your checkbooks. Here's a summary of our cash position:

Cash on Hand
Accounts Payable for Construction
(includes Home Depot Credit outstanding and temp bridge loan)
Actual Immediate Cash Needs to Pay for what we have already spent!
(\$61,000.00)

Please help us make the Campaign a success and secure the DKE House for future generations of worthless bums like you were! Aloha! – FFTHF – Charlie Munn

#### Actives Report (Sam Dibert - Active President 2007-2008)

Alumni Brothers,

As Active President, I extend our appreciation for the guidance and support given to us by the Alumni Association, especially the recent house renovations and improvements. We look forward to continuing to work towards improvement in all areas of the Fraternity.

We currently have 23 active brothers. I am Sam Dibert, President. I am from Richmond, Virginia and a Political Science major. Our Vice President is Daniel Sexton, our Treasurer is Elliott Fouts, our Secretary is VJ Bajwa, and our Member-at-Large is Mike

Field. We currently have four pledges. Edmund Coffay is from Rockville, Maryland; Rob Harvil is form Staunton, Virginia; Coleman Knabe is from Newport News, Virginia; and Mike Simenauer is from Kensington, Maryland.

Thank you again for your support. Please know that we are always happy to have Alumni come back and visit.

#### Summary

If you all are still reading down to the bottom here, I would like to encourage you to support the fraternity with a little bit of your time and yes some of your money too. We do need volunteers to assist in the capital campaign. It doesn't take much. Just email Charlie Lloyd at charlielloyd@cox.nct with the names of a few brothers you are willing to contact in regards to giving back to the fraternity. In this role over the past four years I have had the opportunity to deal with the active fraternity leaders, meet other DKE and DKS alumni, and most of all catch up with a few souls that I haven't seen in years. While most of our efforts to get the alumni together have fizzled out, I am excited about the potential establishment of a DKE/DKS tailgate location starting next year. Thanks again to everyone's support of the DKE/DKS-VT Alumni Association. It is what we make of it.

FFTHF - Dan Johnson

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