



Sighs of Psi



INSIDE:

- Psi Day Highlights • 2
- Please Honor Your Pledges • 3
- Alumnus Spotlight • 4
- Alumni Update • 5

PSI CHAPTER OF DELTA KAPPA EPSILON AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA ♦ FALL 2009

NEW HOUSE CORPORATION SETS GOALS TO MAINTAIN DKE'S PRESTIGE

Thanks Previous Board Members for Outstanding Years of Service

One would think that since the new house had been built the activity level of the House Corporation would have slowed. Well, with respect to the activities involved in providing a world-class college men's living facility without equal in the premier location on campus it has. The pace continues nonetheless with the House Corporation assisting the Chapter with implementation of the drug-free policy, the normal activities during the fall semester, changes to the board, and wrapping up the capital campaign.

We are very proud and encouraged by the Chapter, which has set a precedent on campus as being the first fraternity to implement a drug-free policy with testing to ensure compliance. This program is being looked at with great interest by many parties, including the University, as the prototype for future programs. Tim Hebson, the dean of Student Affairs and the Chapter's faculty advisor, has hailed the Chapter's efforts as exemplary.

This semester has seen the usual football games and alumni activity along with a couple of milestones for the Chapter. At Homecoming, Julia Leatherwood was recognized for working in the DKE kitchen for 25 years. Also at Homecoming, Mrs. Gwen Burt, who recently retired, was recognized for serving as housemother for 10 years. She was honored with an oil painting, which will hang in the house to commemorate her service.

The board itself has seen its share of changes this year. A number of longstanding members have stepped down to take well-deserved breaks from service. They will be missed. The current members of the House Corporation are **Angus Cooper III '97**, **Gary Garstecki '79**, **Chris Harmon '85**, **Larry Howell Jr. '92**, **Ken Huffstutler Jr. '78**, **Mike Lapeyrouse '77**, and **Jesse Vogtle Jr. '85**, and myself.

(Continued on page 2)

ANNUAL PSI DAY TEA HONORS ALL THINGS DKE

Homecoming weekend is always a special time for DKE as we host our annual Psi Day Tea the day before the Homecoming game. This year, our event was held October 16 at the house.



Psi Chapter hosted our 2009 Psi Day Tea at the house, where alumni and their families stopped by throughout the weekend for events. Theo Middleton '10, John McNeil Sr. '79, Will Brown '79, Steve Gordon '79, and Alex Fleming '08 are pictured here.

Numerous alumni and their families stopped by the house to admire the magnificent Mansion on the Hill. It was great to meet so many DKEs from across the country and all generations and see brothers we hadn't seen in several years. All

were in agreement that DKE still has the top Chapter House at the University of Alabama as they walked through the house and visited with one another.

On Saturday morning, we hosted a breakfast at the house. With the Homecoming parade traveling by our house that morning, it was fun to watch all the floats go by from our very own front yard.

Due to the game being in the evening the active and alumni Chapter meeting was held in the afternoon with lunch served shortly beforehand. All in attendance received an update from the Chapter, and the House Corporation gave an overview of the current year and board plans. The new board is in place and setting goals for the coming year.

Two special women were honored during the meeting, Julia Leatherwood for her 25 years of work in the DKE kitchen, and Gwen Burt, for serving as housemother for 10 years. Concluding the Homecoming weekend, brothers walked down to Bryant-Denny Stadium Saturday night and watched the Tide dominate South Carolina in a 20-6 win.

We couldn't be more proud of our football team and our DKE Chapter.

2009 Psi Day Tea Highlights



NEW HOUSE CORPORATION

(Continued from page 1)

The House Corporation remains financially sound, and the Chapter continues to be prosperous. The House Corporation uses the funds it collects to maintain the new house, which, if you have not seen it, is the finest fraternity house on campus, in the state, and probably in the country. If you have made a pledge, thank you for your generosity.

In the bonds,
Black Chaffe IV '83
 House Corporation President
 (469) 951-2031
 bchaffe@theocc.com



Chapter Focuses on Philanthropy and Reconnecting with Alumni

Recruitment Brings in Top-Notch Pledge Class

The Psi Chapter takes great pride in giving back to the community. Last spring, we were involved in a few community service events. Fuller's Festival, at Water Oaks in Tuscaloosa, was a one-time event that benefited Children's Hospital of Alabama. This festival was in honor of Fuller Goldsmith, who was diagnosed with acute lymphocytic leukemia and unable to have a party for his fourth birthday during his treatment.

The festival had tons activities for children of all ages. Our members helped run the activities and other tasks the event planners needed. It was a really awesome thing to be a part of because the festival not only benefited Children's Hospital but a birthday party for Fuller.

Psi Chapter hosted a Halloween party with Hannah Home in October. Once again, it was an honor to put on this event for the kids and make sure the kids and their families had a great time.

Events

For every home football game this fall, there



The Chapter was proud to enjoy Homecoming weekend at the house.

were food and refreshments at the house for all actives and alumni. The Psi Chapter really enjoys the company of alumni on game days and we consider it one of the things that makes DKE such a great organization. Game day is also a great time for alumni to see the new Mansion on the Hill.

Homecoming this year was the weekend of October 16-17. It was great to meet many of

our DKE brothers at the Psi Day Tea at the house on Friday. We had an alumni Chapter meeting prior to kickoff on Saturday, then watched the Tide take on South Carolina.

Recruitment

Recruitment has started for the 2010-11 school year. This semester, home football games were a great time to meet and entertain potential members. Next semester, we will host two or three recruitment parties throughout the state. Our annual pig roast is planned for February and Crawfish Boil later in the spring. We look to current members for connecting with potential members, but more importantly look for alumni recommendations. Any recommendations can be e-mailed to dkerush@gmail.com or submitted through our Web site at www.uadke.org.

The active Chapter hopes all of you will make the trip to Tuscaloosa this year to check out the Mansion on the Hill. As always, we are "friends from the heart forever" and Roll Tide!

WELCOME, NEW PLEDGE CLASS

Stewart J. Alvis*

Mountain Brook, Ala.
Mountain Brook H.S.

Charles B. Archer

Mobile, Ala.
St. Paul's Episcopal School

Hadley B. Bishop

Monroeville, Ala.
Monroe Academy

John D. Carter

Dallas, Texas
Highland Park H.S.

Hugh M. Casteix*

Mobile, Ala.
UMS Wright H.S.

Jack P. Conger

Dallas, Texas
Shelton H.S.

Gilbert L. Cook

Decatur, Ala.
Decatur H.S.

John M. Delchamps Jr.*

Mobile, Ala.
St. Paul's Episcopal School

Patrick R. Finkbohner*

Mobile, Ala.
McGill Toolen H.S.

Corey J. Fountain

Mobile, Ala.
St. Paul's Episcopal School

Joseph M. Gilmore

Mobile, Ala.
St. Paul's Episcopal School

James D. Grisham Jr.*

Mountain Brook, Ala.
Mountain Brook H.S.

Albert C. Haas*

Birmingham, Ala.
Altamont H.S.

Robert W. Hale*

Mobile, Ala.
St. Paul's Episcopal School

Wyn P. Jeffery

Columbus, Ga.
Brook Stone H.S.

John E. Meacham*

Mobile, Ala.
UMS Wright H.S.

Harris V. Morrissette*

Mobile, Ala.
UMS Wright H.S.

Duncan E. Murphy

Fairhope, Ala.
Bayside Academy

Vincent S. Nelson Jr.*

Gulf Shores, Ala.
Gulf Shores H.S.

Benjamin S. Pilgrim

San Antonio, Texas
Alamo Heights H.S.

Hunter J. Plott

Tuscaloosa, Ala.
Northridge H.S.

Marcus M. Porter*

Mobile, Ala.
St. Paul's Episcopal School

William C. Reehl

Fairhope, Ala.
Bayside Academy

Robert A. Riis*

Mobile, Ala.
UMS Wright H.S.

William B. Riser*

Mountain Brook, Ala.
Mountain Brook H.S.

Matthew B. Russel

Look-Out Mtn., Ga.
Baylor H.S.

Ethan E. Sloan

Orange Beach, Ala.
Gulf Shores H.S.

Christian R. Smith

Decatur, Ala.
Decatur H.S.

Peter C. Smith

Birmingham, Ala.
Vestavia Hills H.S.

Chandler J. Snell

Columbus, Ga.
Brook Stone High School H.S.

Frederick T. Stimpson*

Mobile, Ala.
UMS Wright H.S.

Nathan O. Venz

Dallas, Texas
Highland Park H.S.

John T. Wimberly

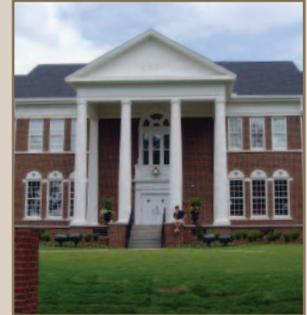
Metairie, La.
Metairie Park Country Day H.S.

Allen L. Yeilding*

Mountain Brook, Ala.
Mountain Brook H.S.

*Legacy

PLEASE HONOR YOUR PLEDGES!



Once again, thank you to all who pledged to our *Building for the Next 150 Years Capital Campaign*. Many of you have completed your pledges and, as a result, we have a very impressive house on the Alabama campus. Thank you!

To those who have outstanding pledges, the payment of your pledge is extremely important. Only through these will we be able to complete the project. You will be receiving your pledge due reminders a couple months prior to your pledge payment date. At any time, you may pay off your pledge in advance. With our continued support, DKE will remain the premier Chapter on campus.

House Corporation

PRESIDENT
Black Chaffe IV '83
Southlake, Texas
(469) 951-2031
bchaffe@theocc.com

TREASURER
Angus Cooper III '97
Mobile, Ala.

MEMBERS
Mike Lapeyrouse '77
Mobile, Ala.
Ken Huffstutler Jr. '78
Mobile, Ala.

Gary Garstecki '79
Mobile, Ala.

Chris Harmon '85
Birmingham, Ala.

Jesse Vogtle Jr. '85
Birmingham, Ala.

Larry Howell Jr. '92
Tuscaloosa, Ala.

DKE FOR LIFE

Former House Manager **John Nielsen '83** Relates Career Pervsurance to DKE

Growing up in Evergreen, Alabama, we were 35 miles from the movie theater in Andalusia and 75 miles from a department store. I had never been to Tuscaloosa until I pledged DKE at Alabama in August 1979. I had heard a few college and DKE stories from my brother, **Tom '82**, and my cousins. Universities and fraternities were experiences for which I had little reference. Other DKE pledges from bigger places seemed a lot more confident than I felt; they were savvier.

My freshman year would definitely be my building year. I heard a phrase that year for the first time: "It's never over." I would hear those DKE words many more times until I graduated in 1984. My time as DKE house manager was marked by those words, "It's never over." The old home took constant repair even 25 years ago.

I graduated with a degree in communications. A few years later I married Kelly McKinney, an Auburn graduate from Mobile. Kelly and I have two daughters, Mary Ryan, a freshman at Huntingdon, and Sarah, a junior in high school.

Opportunity led us back to Evergreen to a family business. Part of my job required that I spend a lot of time abroad sourcing new products. Trips often included rural places in Latin America, Africa, and Asia.

My first trip to China took me to a rural factory in the north. Dinner was served at the factory and there was a large selection of unidentifiable dishes. I tried to eat some of everything to be polite. The factory owner insisted I try some gray colored, rancid smelling pickled

meat. His interpreter said it was "prosciutto." I knew he was lying, but I ate it as a challenge.

My body revolted. Event after taking regular tourist medicines, I got sicker. All of the usual bad things happened, simultaneously. It lasted into the next day as we traveled by car. I had to make an emergency stop at a filthy roadside outhouse. A very old man squatted next to me, said something in Chinese, and started laughing. I was sick, humiliated, but curious to know what he had said. I resolved never to return to China.

I recovered enough to get on a plane and headed home. During the 12-hour flight I wondered what the old Chinese man said to me in that outhouse. Out of nowhere, the thought came to me, "Who knows, maybe he said, 'Remember: it's never over.'"

I did return to China many times over the years and enjoyed successes and friendships there. The DKEs were right. It's never over. We are responsible even when we get humbled. We press forward, resolute, outlasting adversity until we get to the next bright place. We maximize our good times and revel in our Brotherhood. What a great lesson to give a young, naïve freshman entering college. What a complement to our faith. What a testament to Psi Chapter that so many of us would remember those words for so many years!

John Nielsen '83 works for Nielsen Habitat LLC in Evergreen, Alabama, and can be e-mailed at johnnielsen@hotmail.com.

Psi Chapter Hosts Eighth Annual DKE Golf Tournament

The Psi Chapter sponsored and hosted the eighth annual Susan B. Easlick/Mike Michaels/Gerald R. Ford Memorial Golf Classic this year. The event was held in Mobile, Alabama, on May 15 at TimberCreek Golf Course. Although the true winners of the tournament are still up for discussion, Psi alumnus **G. Kelly Grady '86** won the contest for the longest drive.

The tournament, which successfully raised thousands of dollars for the Rampant Lion Foundation from sponsor contributions and a silent auction, commemorates the lives of four people who significantly impacted the Fraternity and the foundation. Originally named for Susan Easlick, who served as administrative director for 20 years, this year's tournament also reminded us of the contributions of longtime DKE Board Chairman **Henry H. Michaels Jr., Rho/Lafayette**, Rampant Lion Foundation Honorary Board Chairman **Gerald R. Ford, Omicron/Michigan**, and Rampant Lion Foundation Trustee **John H. Stembler Jr., Beta/North Carolina**, who donates the trophy that is awarded each year.

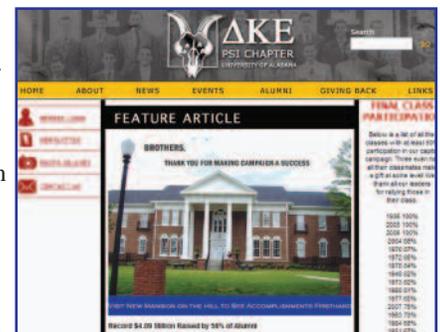
The event concluded with a gulf coast picnic at Felix Fish Camp in the Swamp Room, which is owned by **Angus R. Cooper II '64** and **David Jr. Cooper '67**.

VISIT OUR WEB SITE!

www.uadke.org

We encourage you to visit our Psi Chapter Web site that is for and about you, our alumni. Check the site frequently for updates and successes about the Chapter. We hope it will be an additional way to keep you connected to DKE. No matter how far away brothers may travel from Tuscaloosa, they can always stay in touch.

- Read through past newsletters
- Look at pictures of our new house
- Update your contact information
- Download an alumni directory
- See information about upcoming events...and more!



When logging on for the first time, click on "New Member Login" to submit a request to the Web master. You will then be sent a username and password.

Alumni Update

MYSTIC CIRCLE

Felix M. Drennen II '50 entered the Mystic Circle on June 23. He is the son of Alan T. Drennen and Mary Alexander Drennen. Felix served as training officer for the Army in World War II. After college, he married Marilyn Conway and raised four sons in Crestline. He had a long and successful business career, beginning in automobile sales at Drennen Motor Co. He later became interested in real estate and joined R.A. Brown Co. and then started Drennen Real Estate Co. with his brother, **Gerald A. "Jerry" Drennen '52**. They were active in residential sales and development, including the development of subdivisions such as Cherokee Bend in Mountain Brook. Later, Felix was in the mortgage finance business, and then returned to commercial real estate with LAH until his recent retirement. He was preceded in death by his son, Robert, and brother, Jerry. Survivors include his wife, Marilyn, sons Felix III, Daniel II, Richard, brother **Alan T. Drennen Jr. '49**, and grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

ALUMNI NEWS

Herndon Inge Jr. '43 lives with his wife, Alice, in Mobile, Ala. He retired from a 60-year career in law in 2009.

James L. Teague '61 retired as a sales manager and is the proud grandfather to 10 grandchildren. He and his wife, Betty, live in Greenville, S.C.

C. Randall Clark '61 and his wife, Jan, have retired to Harrington Lake, south of Lexington, Ky., after a 47-year career in mining and pulling coal. They welcome visitors on the dock! E-mail: riverratrandy@windstream.net

Thomas H. Patton '69 retired as a dentist in 2007. Tom and his wife, Susan, have three children and five grandchildren and live in Tuscaloosa, Ala.

W. Garth Lovvorn '69 is an avid horse trail rider and extends an invitation to his pledge brothers who like to ride, as well. Garth is the area president for Bank Independent-Athens. He and his wife, Linda, live in Athens, Ala. E-mail: glovvorn@bibank.com

Ronald E. Owen '79 is the owner and president of Fred Owen Construction in Alabama. He lives in Birmingham, Ala. with his wife, Laura, and their daughters, Katie (a UA freshman) and Marlee.

Sidney G. Weinacker '81 and his wife, Ann, have four children: Gray (who was married on May 16, 2009), Machel, Adam, and Matthew. Sidney and Ann live in Mobile, Ala. E-mail: sidney.weinacker@ssigroup.com

Michael E. Dazet '92 and his wife, Lydia, are proud parents to three children: Lilly, Dominic, and Gigi, and reside in New

Orleans, La. Michael is president and CEO of Riverbend Capital LLC. E-mail: michael@dazetmortgage.biz

Michael C. Seaman '02 earned his MBA from the University of New Orleans and now works as a CPA in Louisiana. He lives in Metairie. E-mail: michaelcseaman@yahoo.com

Lt. William H. Ward Jr., USN '02 is a naval flight surgeon for a Marine Corps jet squadron in Cherry Point, N.C. His squadron deployed to Al Anbar Province, Iraq, in July 2009 in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Billy and his wife, Mary Elizabeth, live in Atlantic Beach, N.C. E-mail: williamhward@gmail.com

Robert B. "Ship" Maitre '03 married Julia Sisson on June 14, 2008, in Mobile, Ala. Ship received his DMD from the University of Alabama School of Dentistry and practices in Mobile with his father and brother at Maitre, Maitre, Crabtree and Maitre. E-mail: ShipM23@aol.com

Richard H. Marshall Jr. '03 is a first-year resident at Ochsner Hospital. He lives in New Orleans, La.



LET US HEAR FROM YOU!

We always enjoy knowing what our alumni are doing in their lives. So how about letting us hear from you so your brothers can catch up on your news? Take a moment to write us and bring us up to date. You don't need a special form; just jot down a few words about yourself and send it to:

Delta Kappa Epsilon
House Corporation
P.O. Box 1789
Tuscaloosa, AL 35403

Or submit your news on
our Web site at www.uadke.org!

Upcoming Events

FEBRUARY 2010
Annual Pig Roast

APRIL 2010
Annual Crawfish Boil

Join us for our two main
recruitment events this spring!

SUMMER 2010
166th DKE Convention
Location and details TBA
Check www.dke.org for updates

Web Sites

DKE International

www.dke.org

Psi Chapter

www.uadke.org

The University of Alabama

www.ua.edu



Sighs of Psi

**Delta Kappa Epsilon
House Corporation**

P.O. Box 1789
Tuscaloosa, AL 35403

Address Service Requested

PSRT
FIRST CLASS
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
LAWRENCE, KS
PERMIT #570

ATTENTION: This newsletter is intended for alumni, undergraduates, and parents. If your son is still attending The University of Alabama, he will receive a copy at the Chapter House. If he has graduated, please send us his permanent address to update our records. Thank you.

2009-10 CRIMSON TIDE BASKETBALL

Dec. 23	Mercer
Dec. 30	Tennessee State
Jan. 4	at Toledo
Jan. 9	at LSU
Jan. 13	Vanderbilt
Jan. 16	at Arkansas
Jan. 19	Tennessee
Jan. 23	Mississippi State
Jan. 27	LSU
Jan. 30	at Auburn
Feb. 4	Florida
Feb. 6	at Mississippi
Feb. 9	at Kentucky
Feb. 13	Arkansas
Feb. 20	at Georgia
Feb. 24	at Mississippi State
Feb. 27	Mississippi
March 3	at South Carolina
March 6	Auburn

Stop by the house before
or after all home games!

Home games in bold

RECRUITMENT RECOMMENDATION

Prospect's Name _____

Home Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-Mail _____

Parent(s) _____

High school attended _____

Does prospect have a DKE relative? _____

Reference submitted by _____

Phone _____ E-Mail _____

Alumni, we value your input in membership selection.
Please submit prospect recommendations to:

Delta Kappa Epsilon House Corporation, P.O. Box 1789, Tuscaloosa, AL 35403,
e-mail recommendation to dkerush@gmail.com or submit at www.uadke.org.