



# Sighs of Psi



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PSI CHAPTER OF DELTA KAPPA EPSILON AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA ♦ SPRING 2011

## Retreat with Chapter Officers Helps Strengthen Chapter Relations

*Artifact Collection and  
Homecoming Plans Progressing*

The House Corporation board recently had a wonderful meeting with the incoming Chapter officers at the hunting camp of **Mike Lapeyrouse '77**. We discussed various topics but mostly spent time getting to know each other and discussing items whose mystic nature forbids me from divulging in this article. I can reveal through this public medium that there are two “new” officer positions that have been created by the Chapter - Dr. Psi and Chapter Historian.

**Lee Pittman '14** (ldpittman@crimson.ua.edu) is following in his father’s footsteps, having the distinction of being Dr. Psi for 2011 (I believe **Trip '82** was Dr. Psi in 1981). Lee is working on the Homecoming celebration and Psi Day Tea in the fall. We will again have a Homecoming banquet after the Psi Day Tea, but the exact details have not been determined. Details will follow as they are made. In the interim, feel free to e-mail Lee with your questions about Homecoming or updated mailing information.

**Marcus Porter '13** (mmporter1@crimson.ua.edu) and **Patrick Terry '14** (prterry@crimson.ua.edu) are the historians for the Chapter and will be working with the alumni historian, **Semmes Favrot**, and the Psi historical committee, which is made up of a number of interested alumni. I think you’ll find the information revealed in Semmes’ article interesting and I encourage your feedback.

Lastly, I found an old *Sighs of Psi* from 1988 that I provided to Semmes. The committee is interested in preserving any old documents that you have and so, if you have anything of this nature, please scan the documents and send the electronic copy to Semmes.

Finally, the Chapter officers expressed their desire to have more alumni contact, and ways of doing this were discussed and activities are in the idea stage right now. At the very least, if you have the opportunity to do so, please drop by the house to say hello. Wednesday’s supper is still fried chicken and Julia’s is legendary. Remember, “Everything’s chicken but the gravy!”

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

## DKEs IMPROVE ACADEMICS AND HAVE STRONG REPRESENTATION AMONG CAMPUS ORGANIZATIONS Annual Pig Roast and Greek Week Held This Spring

There has not been a better time than this semester to be a DKE at Alabama. After the success of the recent pig roast recruitment party, everyone is looking forward to Undertakers 2011 in April.

### Academics

An emphasis around the DKE house this year has been grades. After an underperforming ranking of 20th on campus a year ago, we have moved up to ninth place out of 35 fraternities. The freshman study hall program in the fall was a success, with the freshmen ranking in the top 10 in grades, including five members with a 4.0. The goal is to move in to the top five by the fall semester.

### DKEs Involved on Campus

Many of our members are involved in a number of campus organizations, including several freshmen in SGA. **Davis Vaughn '14**, a freshman from Montgomery, is an active member in First Year Council and is planning a campaign for senate this spring. Sophomore **Christian Smith '13** is a senator in the business school.

*(Continued on page 2)*



Brothers set up a fence around the front yard in preparation for the annual pig roast recruitment party.



## How DKE Makes a Difference

“DKE has meant so much to me, whether it be the support I receive academically or through the brotherhood I am a part of. I couldn’t imagine my life here at the University of Alabama without being a DKE, and I look forward to the bright future at the DKE house.”

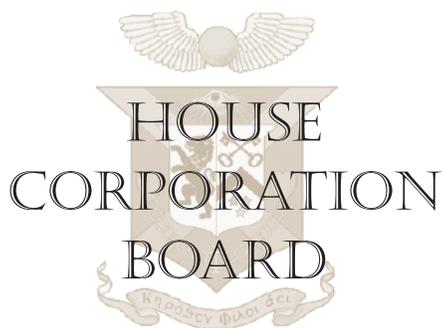
-**Burne Terry Jr. '12**  
Birmingham, Ala.

“The DKE house has been an unbelievable place to live the past two years. With the stadium right across the street, I could not imagine waking up to a more beautiful sight. I could not imagine having a better home to live in for the four years of my college education.”

-**Tom Gray '12**  
Decatur, Ala.

“Being from out of state, I did not know what to expect for fraternities. I can honestly say now that joining DKE has been the best decision of my college experience. The friends I have made in DKE are like brothers to me, and I know we will always be close.”

-**Jonathan Brayman '12**  
Charlottesville, Va.



PRESIDENT  
**Black Chaffe IV '83**  
Southlake, Texas  
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MEMBERS  
**Mike Lapeyrouse '77**  
Mobile, Ala.

**Ken Huffstutler Jr. '78**  
Mobile, Ala.

TREASURER  
**Angus Cooper III '97**  
Mobile, Ala.

**Gary Garstecki '79**  
Mobile, Ala.

SECRETARY  
**Chris Harmon '85**  
Birmingham, Ala.

**Jesse Vogtle Jr. '85**  
Birmingham, Ala.

**Blake Ashbee '01**  
Tuscaloosa, Ala.

## PSI CHAPTER LEADERSHIP LAUNCHES ALUMNUS' CAREER

### Spotlight on Bill Waechter '92

A native of Richmond, Virginia, **Bill Waechter '92** arrived at the University of Alabama without knowing a soul. Looking for a place to call home, Bill went through open rush and received a bid from DKE. Bill says, “When I arrived at the University, I didn’t know anyone. **John Jeffries '90**, **Tommy Boudreau '90**, and **Guy Cook '90** took a chance on me, and I was very fortunate to find a home at the DKE house.”

Bill enjoyed serving as house manager his junior year, during which the old house underwent one of its last major renovations. “It was an incredible old place in so many ways. I truly hated to see it go a few years back.”

Recalling his time at DKE, Bill identifies his last semester when Alabama went undefeated and won the national championship as one of his favorite memories. Last fall, Bill was able to visit the new Chapter House several times during football season and was fortunate to meet up with several old friends.

After earning a degree in public relations with a minor in English, Bill went on to begin his career with Gulf City Body & Trailer Works Inc., which is owned by **Barry Gritter '64**. Gulf City sells and services new and used transportation equipment throughout the Southeast. Today, Bill covers east Alabama, Florida, and Georgia as a sales representative for Gulf City.

To his younger brothers in the active Chapter and those who have recently graduated, Bill offers some advice. “Utilize the contacts you made through the DKE house. Numerous friendships and certainly every job I’ve ever had, always, in some way, tie back to the DKE house. I owe a great deal to the Chapter.”

In his spare time, Bill enjoys hunting and fishing. He and his wife, Shea, have a daughter, Palmer (8), and a son, Will (6), and reside in Mobile, Alabama. To contact Bill, you can e-mail him at [bwaechter@gulfcity.com](mailto:bwaechter@gulfcity.com).

## Mystic Circle

**Judge John W. Coleman '43**, 90, entered the Mystic Circle June 27, 2010, at his residence in Talladega, Florida. He grew up in Eutaw, Alabama. His grandfather, Thomas Wilkes Coleman, served on the Alabama Supreme Court, as did his oldest brother, James Samuel Coleman Jr. His parents were James Samuel Coleman and Marybelle Petet Coleman, who was editor of *The Green County Democrat*. His other two brothers were Dr. Wilson M. Coleman and Charles H. Coleman.

Judge Coleman earned a bachelor’s degree from the University of Alabama and a law degree from the University of Alabama Law School. He was a first lieutenant in the U.S. Army, serving in France and Germany during World War II in the 36th Texas division.

After the war, he married Mary Dowdell Welch and practiced law with her father,

Gordon T. Welch, in Talladega for over 25 years. Their office building is now known as the Welch-Coleman Ballroom.

He was elected to the district court judgeship for northern Talladega and served in that capacity until his retirement in 1989. He was also an elder of the First Presbyterian Church of Talladega, a post commander for the VFW, president of the Kiwanis Club, Alabama state chaplain for the Gideons, general chairman of the countywide Crusade for Christ in 1966 and a co-founder of the Samaritan House.

Judge Coleman is preceded in death by his wife, Mary. He is survived by his daughter, Mary Coleman Humphreys (Mike), sons John Woodrow Coleman Jr. (Cindy) and Gordon Welch Coleman; nine grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

# HISTORICAL COMMITTEE ARTIFACT COLLECTION GROWS

I am pleased to report we are making good progress on our early efforts to gather records and other items of historical interest pertaining to the rich history and traditions of the Psi Chapter. In addition to retrieving important old records from the DKE house for cataloguing and analyzing, we have made several other important acquisitions and discoveries in the past several months of interest to the entire Psi community.

Last fall we were very fortunate to obtain an old handwritten volume of DKE records dating from the 1850s-1890s, which once belonged to DKE alumnus and University professor John C. Calhoun, who was a great-nephew of the famous 19th century American statesman and vice president of the same name. Mr. Calhoun, an Alabama native, had been a DKE at Washington College (now Washington and Lee University) as an undergraduate, before coming to Alabama to serve as a professor in 1877. He was one of several DKE alumni instrumental in reviving the Psi Chapter after the University lifted the ban on fraternities which lasted from 1856 to 1885.

It is said that thereafter “through many years [he] was Psi’s best friend and counselor.” He kept his own handwritten records of members of each DKE chapter, which he continually updated. Last fall, we obtained the second of Mr. Calhoun’s two-volume set of these records, which was generously given to us by Mr. Chris Jacob, whose elderly uncle had been in possession of the volume for many years. This volume has generated great interest with the historical committee of DKE International. Mr. Calhoun belongs in the pantheon of great DKEs connected to the Psi Chapter, and we are eternally grateful to Mr. Jacob for this generous donation.

Other interesting and eclectic donations to our archives include a photo album of life at the DKE house from the 1950s, generously donated by **David Brady ’80**, and a sleeveless t-shirt worn by **John Delchamps ’82** to an Oakland Raiders party at the DKE house circa 1980, which was generously donated by **Lin Moore ’82**. Brother Moore is to be commended for his foresight in preserving this priceless artifact for the past 30 years.

These and other donated items will all be given a hallowed place in our archives, so please consider donating artifacts or making copies of

records available to the Chapter. Anything from old DKE pins, scrolls, and composites to old photos, letters, etc. is welcome.

**Old Psi Motto:** In working with the Historical Committee of DKE International, I recently had the pleasure of becoming acquainted with Brother Bill Fogle, ΔX Cornell. Mr. Fogle and other Cornell DKE alumni have done some brilliant research on DKE history, and he recently wrote me in connection with a research study his group is doing on “Overt Mottos of the ΔKE Fraternity and Chapters.” He advises that their research shows the following as the formal old Greek motto for the Psi Chapter: Ἀρετὴν Ἀσώκμεν Areten Askomen

This motto translates as “We practice virtue.” Mr. Fogle further writes, “I would like to know if there is (1) a classical source that the Psi Dekes might have taken their motto, Ἀρετὴν Ἀσώκμεν, from or (2) if there is a reason cited for it in any published history of the Psi chapter.”

Neither I nor any other members of the Psi historical committee have ever personally seen or heard of this motto, which may have been taken from an old Psi composite. So I’d like to know if any of the rest of you, particularly our older alumni, may be familiar with it. If so, please let me know so that we can assist in this research study. This is exactly the sort of lost Psi history that we need to be finding and resurrecting.

Finally, I’d like to express my sincere thanks to the University administration, and in particular to Vice President of Student Affairs Dr. Kathleen Cramer, for the support that the University has shown for our efforts, which includes the donation of two volumes of University history for our archives and to aid in our research efforts.

Thanks for all of your support.

In the bonds,  
**Semmes Favrot ’82**  
Alumni Historian  
(504) 491-4511  
sfavrot@cox.net

## Memories of Being a DKE

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grad Yr: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Favorite DKE memory: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Send form to: **T. Semmes Favrot ’82** • 1904 Palmer Ave,  
New Orleans, LA 74018 • Or sfavrot@cox.net





## DKE HISTORICAL TRIVIA

This 1931 photo from the Psi archives shows one-time DKE “house father” and noted Psi alumnus **“Uncle Tom” Garner** and famous Hollywood actor Lew Ayres, best known for his role as Dr. Kildare in several movies. It is inscribed, “Best Wishes to Uncle ‘Tom’- Lew Ayres 1931.” A typewritten note on the back of the photo states, “Tom Garner, in charge of student activities at the University of Alabama, visits Lew Ayres at the Universal Studios.” Prior to marrying Nancy Reagan, President Ronald Reagan had been married to actress Jane Wyman,

who divorced Reagan in the (unsuccessful) hope of marrying Lew Ayres, who was at one time himself married to actress Ginger Rogers.

Does anyone know how Uncle Tom knew Lew Ayres or why he was visiting him in California? Lew Ayres was not a DKE, and had no obvious connection to Alabama or the South. If so, e-mail me at sfavrot@cox.net.

~Semmes Favrot '82

## Alumni Update

**Robert P. Denniston '41** was a self-employed lawyer until he retired in 2010. He and his wife, Juanita, have a son, Michael, and live in Mobile, Ala.

**Donald W. Muir '50, David D. McMullin '54, and Allen Tutwiler** built a 16-foot flat bottom boat, bought a used 3 1/2 horsepower outboard motor, and sailed 361 miles down the rivers from Tuscaloosa to Mobile after summer school in 1948.

**C. Randall Clark '61** and his wife, Jan, live on a lake south of Lexington, Ky., with a covered boat dock and a tram to whisk them from their screened porch to the lake. They enjoy the lake as often as possible, dividing their time between grandchildren, three dogs, and Jan's horse. E-mail: riverratrandy@windstream.net

**Yancy D. Lott '61** was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 2009 to celebrate his 50th anniversary of serving as one of two captains of the first University of Alabama swimming team.

**Dan Dumont '72** serves as executive director and in-house counsel for Alabama Forest Resources Center in Mobile, Ala.

**Richard S. “Sam” Meador '75** is secretary and treasurer of Meador Warehousing & Distribution Inc. in Mobile, Ala. His son, Dr. Richard S. Meador Jr., joined Nephrology Associates of Mobile. Sam and his wife, Deborah, have one other son, Philip. E-mail: sammeador1@aol.com

**John W. Cline Jr. '85** and his wife, Linda, live in Birmingham, Ala., and have four children: Reagan, Hunter, Will, and Catherine. John is chief executive officer of STX Healthcare Management Services. E-mail: lcline705@charter.net

**David G. Zeringue '89** guides deer hunts with West Texas Trophy Outfitters, [www.westtexas trophyoutfitters.com](http://www.westtexas trophyoutfitters.com), and urges his brothers to come on an expedition. E-mail: dzsaltwater@gmail.com

**Daniel K. McAleer '92** enjoyed the class of 1992 reunion last September in Destin, Fla. He lives in Mobile, Ala., and owns Coastal Appraisal Inc. E-mail: dannymcaleer@gmail.com

**Fred B. Carrington '00** and his wife, Julia, welcomed a son, Fred Blackwell Jr., on March 11, 2010. E-mail: freddie@carringtonfoods.com

**C. Bennett Long '01**, his wife, Janie, and son, Charlie, live in Mobile, Ala., where Bennett works as a general counsel for Orange Beach Marina/Bluewater Yacht Sales and as a principal for The Cirrus Group real estate services.

**Dr. Robert B. “Ship” Maitre '03** and his wife, Julia, welcomed their first child, Mary Sisson, on September 2, 2010. Ship and Julia live in Mobile where Ship practices dentistry at Maitre and Crabtree Dental Group. E-mail: shipmaitre@gmail.com

**Hyatt W. Thompson '05** lives in Dallas, Texas, and works as an associate at Swearingen Reality Group.

## 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 website at [www.uadke.org](http://www.uadke.org)!

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## Homecoming & Psi Day Tea and Banquet

October 8 vs. Vanderbilt

Book your rooms early at

Hilton Garden Inn

800 Hollywood Blvd., Tuscaloosa

(205) 722-0360

*More details to come!*



# Sighs of Psi

## Delta Kappa Epsilon House Corporation

P.O. Box 1789

Tuscaloosa, AL 35403

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## Recruitment Recommendations

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

**Gary Garstecki '80** at (251) 342-1999 or [gary.garstecki@morgankeegan.com](mailto:gary.garstecki@morgankeegan.com).

**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.

## 2011 Undertaker's Ball Highlights

Our annual Undertaker's Ball was held Saturday, April 2. The house was fully decorated for the occasion, and the funeral procession ended back at house. All the actives and their dates, as well as the cooks, had a great time.

