



KANSAS DELTA

A PUBLICATION OF KANSAS DELTA CHAPTER OF SIGMA PHI EPSILON AT WASHBURN UNIVERSITY

SUMMER 2009

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Kansas Delta Chapter Has Move to Chapter House on MacVicar Avenue *SigEp Leased Former Kappa Alpha Theta House*

Over the last few years, the Kansas Delta Alumni Board of Directors has been evaluating housing options for the Chapter. The current facility at 1520 S.W. 17th has been the home for Kansas Delta since 1980 (nearly 30 years!) and has served the Chapter well.

If you haven't visited Washburn University lately, you might not know about the new housing options that have become available on campus and in the surrounding neighborhood. It became apparent that Kansas Delta needed to improve its facility to remain competitive by making a major renovation of the current facility, finding an alternate existing facility, or building a new facility.



Kansas Delta has leased the former Kappa Alpha Theta house from a private property management company.

The board has been diligent in its work, engaging in two feasibility studies and considering many options since 2003, with the hope that when the right project presented itself, we'd launch a significant effort to communicate with alumni about our plans (after all, there would be a fundraising component involved in any housing project!).

In June 2008, we learned that the women of Kappa Alpha Theta were interested in selling their Chapter House, and after a quick tour, that property became the object of our attention. We've spent many hours over the last year working with Washburn Endowment Association and The Miller Group developing a concept where Washburn University would own the property and lease it to the Fraternity. The

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NEW CHAPTER HOUSE DEDICATION Saturday, September 26

10 a.m.—Breakfast at the New Delta
• Alumni Board Presentation

10:30 a.m.—House Tours

11:00 a.m.—ΣΦΕ Tailgate Event (food provided)
(north of Yager Stadium)

1:00 p.m.—WU vs. Central Missouri

HAWKINS WEEKEND UPDATE

The 31st Annual Gregory K. Hawkins Memorial Softball Tournament and Alumni Weekend was well attended in 2009 but plagued (again) by rain.

On April 17 nearly 40 undergraduates and alumni played golf at the Cypress Ridge Golf Course in Topeka. Unfortunately, the softball tournament was rained out (for the fifth time in the past seven years).

A project is in the works to establish a more complete and permanent profile of Brother Hawkins. If you have a few minutes and would like to send an e-mail of thoughts and memories to blair4th@cox.net, we'll incorporate that into our record, and we'll spend some time at alumni events with a digital video camera to record individual thoughts and stories as well.

Save the date for next year's event on April 23-24, 2010!



Tom Henderson '70 and Mike Germann '69 enjoyed playing golf at the Cypress Ridge Golf Course in Topeka during the 31st Annual Gregory K. Hawkins alumni weekend.



SigEp Wins IFC Intramural Championship

- *Kansas Delta earns G.P.A. higher than 3.0 and plans to host study hours at the Chapter House*
- *Community relations improving thanks to campus involvement*
- *Undergraduates grateful for alumni leadership in determining the future of Kansas Delta*

The Kansas Delta Chapter of Sigma Phi Epsilon completed another year of excellence at Washburn University. We focused on securing the top spot on campus in academics, leadership, and intramurals. Our members also emphasized the Kansas Delta tradition of involvement in the Topeka community and attending national SigEp leadership conferences.

The undergraduates achieved a G.P.A. above 3.0 for the 2008-09 school year. We plan to improve even more in academics this year, and the Chapter will host study hours that will take place Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday nights in the new house dining room from 8 to 10 p.m. This program will give the brothers an opportunity to have a library atmosphere in the house and receive help from others.

SigEp maintained our commitment to excellence and campus leadership. We participated in every possible intramural sport offered at Washburn University. With those efforts the Chapter was able to repeat as IFC intramural champions. In conjunction with the success on the academic and intramural stages, the Chapter saw growth in community relations.

The Kansas Delta Chapter appreciates the loyal support from the alumni. Many important decisions have been made and discussed regarding the future of the Chapter. However, with the hard work of the alumni and undergraduates, we find ourselves on the right path toward a successful future.

The undergraduates would like to thank all the men who have put forth effort this year and in years past. The work from our fellow Deltans has ensured the success and future of this Chapter. I invite all to rejoice in the efforts of the Chapter and be involved in the next phase of Kansas Delta's history.

Fraternally,
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RECRUITMENT EFFORTS REWARDED WITH MEMBERSHIP GROWTH

By **Nick Roach '58**

led by **Cody Meeks '11**, vice president of membership development, the Kansas Delta recruitment team has done an exceptional job, and we've been assured that they are not done yet.

Here is the breakdown of what we expect in the fall:

MEMBERS	IN-HOUSE	TOWNEE
Returning Members	12	1
New Members	12	2
Fifth-Year Seniors	2	0
Totals	26	3

With 14 new members, 13 returning in-house members, and two fifth-year seniors, we stand today at 29 members.

It doesn't take long to realize that the Chapter size has doubled with just one year of hard work. Retention is always the key, but good recruitment begets retention, and from what I have seen, this is good recruitment!

Think where we can be in another year or two with this level of effort. Recruitment is a never-ending process—if you stop to admire your work or take a deep breath, you have lost ground, and it's tough to make it up. To recommend someone for membership, please send their name and contact information to Cody at Cody.Meeks@washburn.edu.



KANSAS DELTA REMEMBERS DR. LORAN B. SMITH

SIGEP SPOTLIGHTS Featuring Your Kansas Delta Brothers

By **Nick Roach '58**

Once again, I need to deviate from the intended format of this article and use this space to let you know of some recent passings of our brothers, and in this particular case, I am adding the wife of a brother, since he was a friend of mine, as was she.

In the spring 2008 issue of the *Kansas Deltan*, I noted that I had been unable to contact **Dale Jensen '54**. Shortly after that issue was distributed, I received a call from Doris Jensen letting me know that Dale had suffered a stroke and was incapacitated. Dale passed away on May 4, 2009. He was a charter member, pin number 16, and as I noted in the earlier issue, a good man. Sigma Phi Epsilon was listed among his affiliations.

On April 17, 2009, **Richard M. "Nick" Godlove '53** passed away at the age of 78 after a long career with Goodyear. Nick was pin number 30 and the son of long-time Washburn football coach, Dick Godlove. Sigma Phi Epsilon was listed among his affiliations.

Norbert Baldwin '60 passed away on April 15, 2008, in El Paso, Texas. Bert joined SigEp after serving in the Air Force. He was a little older than the average freshman when he began at Washburn and graduated in 1961. Bert was pin number 163. Bert and his wife, Bev Gorrell Baldwin, lived in the southwest for many years.

As noted above, while this article is typically reserved for brothers in Sigma Phi Epsilon, the wife of Brother **Jim Ketcherside '58**, Norene Catron Ketcherside, passed away on April 18, 2009, in McPherson, Kansas, where she and Jim resided for many years. Jim was pin number 138, so while I knew all these men, I knew Jim and Norene better than the others.

Dr. Loran B. "Doc" Smith, pin number 584H, passed away July 24, 2009 at his home. Doc was born July 23, 1946, in Medford, Massachusetts, to Gordon and Edith Smith. He was a 1964 graduate of Winthrop High School and earned a bachelor of arts degree from Salem State College in 1968, an M.A. from Oklahoma State University in 1971, and a Ph.D. from the University of Nebraska in 1980. Brother Smith was a professor of political science at Washburn University from 1982 until his death. Survivors include his brother, Richard Smith, of Revere, Massachusetts. He was preceded in death by his sister, Jeannie L. Boivin. Doc was buried in a family plot at the Forest Hill Cemetery in Madison, Maine.

Brother Smith was an honorary initiate through the Renaissance of Brotherhood program on April 26, 1986. His volunteer service to Kansas Delta over the last 20 years has been significant and unmatched. The Chapter was improving when he assumed the role of Chapter counselor. Determined to see the Chapter continue its improvement, Brother Smith took a leading role and a firm hand in the management and stabilization of the Chapter's finances. Through his efforts, the Chapter was able to eliminate a significant debt to the National Housing Corporation ahead of schedule (1994) and build a significant savings by 2000.

As Chapter counselor, Brother Smith regularly attended Chapter meetings and rarely

missed an Alumni Board meeting. Despite his ex-officio role as a member of the Alumni Board, he played an active role in policy and directional issues. Brother Smith served as secretary of the Alumni Board for more than 18 years, maintaining records of the board's activities.

For the Chapter's 40th anniversary in 1991, Brother Smith combed through 40 years worth of minutes from undergraduate and alumni meetings to put together a comprehensive history of the Chapter, which was printed and published for the Chapter's 40th and 50th anniversary celebrations.

Perhaps the most significant contribution as Chapter counselor has been the personal connection he made with many individual Kansas Deltans. Over the years, the men of Kansas Delta became Doc's de facto family. He didn't share much about his life before he came to Washburn, but the glimpses and stories that he did recount detailed some of the challenges he'd faced growing up in New England. Over the years, there were stories of Doc paying the house bill or tuition and books for students with few resources, ensuring them a place to live and an education. Many times, it was during discussions over dinner at local restaurants where these young men would find a mentor or a father figure that perhaps didn't exist in their own lives.

"Well done, good and faithful servant."
Matthew 25:23

Alumni Serving Kansas Delta

Yes, I am interested in assisting with and/or serving on:

- Internships
- Mentoring an Undergraduate Leader
- Planning Homecoming/Hawkins/Alumni Activities
- Alumni Board

Name and graduation year _____

Phone (w) _____ (h) _____

E-mail _____

*Please mail this form to Sigma Phi Epsilon, Kansas Delta Chapter,
P.O. Box 1951, Topeka, KS 66601, or send an e-mail to volunteer@ksdelta.org.*

Save the Date

Homecoming

October 17, 2009

WU vs. Pittsburg State Gorillas

SigEp Leased Former Kappa Alpha Theta House

(Continued from page 1)

genesis of this plan was from a 2005 discussion about a Greek Village concept, and the idea of 100% tax-deductible alumni contributions in support of the project was a major selling point.

Additionally, in 2008, the three Washburn fraternities with houses were ordered to install fire suppression sprinkler systems by July 2009. Given the number of renovations needed to bring the current Delta house up to today's competitive standards, the alumni agreed that pursuit of the Theta property was in the Chapter's best long-term interests.

The support of our alumni members in the fundraising campaign has been generous, and for that we've been very grateful. But the economic downturn has had an impact on fundraising efforts, and questions about the "surrender of ΣΦΕ equity to WU in the property" affected giving, as well.

In May 2009, a new option presented itself. A private property management company (with owners familiar to Kansas Delta) has offered to purchase the Theta property and enter into a lease-purchase agreement with the Alumni Corporation. We believe that there are pros and cons with any concept, and in this new option, the pros significantly outweighed the cons.

So, as of this writing, the Kansas Delta Chapter will have moved across campus to 2001 S.W. MacVicar Avenue. We'll schedule meetings to discuss the upcoming change, to promote a new fundraising effort for 2014, and to celebrate the move and dedicate the building in the name of Sigma Phi Epsilon.

If you have questions or concerns, please let me know!



Fraternally,
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KANSAS DELTAN

Sigma Phi Epsilon

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ATTENTION: *This newsletter is intended for alumni and parents. If your Sigma Phi Epsilon son still attends Washburn University, 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.*

THANK YOU, WASHBURN ENDOWMENT ASSOCIATION, FOR YOUR ASSISTANCE

The men of the Kansas Delta Chapter of Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity wish to take this opportunity to publicly thank Washburn University and, specifically, the Washburn Endowment Association (WEA) for their efforts on behalf of SigEp over the past 14 months.

WEA Director Juli Mazachek and her staff worked tirelessly with The Miller Group (**Jack Miller '66**), Alumni Board President **Chris Howe '86**, and Housing Committee Chairman **Nick Roach '58** on our housing project. Their professional attitude and will-

ingness to make the sky the limit to help the project succeed were evident. They represented the Chapter and the University well, even as the global economy entered into its historic slump.

WEA has been supportive of the Greek community and our efforts to improve housing, as they recognize that Greeks recruit students to Washburn and contribute to its culture and alumni base. When the alternate proposal presented itself, WEA was gracious and sincere in their desire to see our Chapter acquire new housing.

WEB SITES

**Kansas Delta Chapter
or to donate**
www.ksdelta.org

**Sigma Phi Epsilon
Headquarters**
www.sigep.org

**Washburn
University**
www.washburn.edu

**Washburn
Athletics**
www.wusports.com