

Deke Roar

Spring 2005 Issue

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Important Dates

June 22: Founder's Day

June 30: Happy Hour
5:30 pm Champ's
Minnetonka

July 18: Northern Deke
Meeting, 6 pm, at DKE

Aug 13: 1st Annual Deke
Poker Tournament
1 pm at DKE

Sept 23, Alumni Get
Together, Location TBD

Sept 24, Homecoming

News from Delta Kappa Epsilon-Phi Epsilon Chapter, Northern Deke House Corporation, and Greek community at the University of Minnesota

Spring Wrap-up

Welcome to the Spring issue of the Deke Roar. Northern Deke and Phi Epsilon have been very busy since the last issue.

We would like to thank the Alumni and Dennis Gerber for attending the Northern Deke meeting in February. Most of the discussion was focused on the Greek Village and its impact on the future of Deke and the Greek community.

More information on the Greek Village is below.

In this issue you will find information on our efforts to reach out to our Alumni

and the fantastic response we have been getting. We have reached out to Deke Alumni living in Minnesota that did not attend school here.

We continue to get strong support from David Easlick and Dennis Gerber at DKE headquarters.

We have some work to do with Northern Deke and Phi Epsilon but we are in such a great position to be able to capitalize on the momentum within Deke, the Greek community and the University that we are

looking forward to the summer and the next academic year.

Special thanks to George Serdar '68, Allan Pavcek '92, Eric Holland '04, Paul Hartman '97, and Jason Sorensen '93 for their time and energy.

Please continue to send us your updates.

David Jennings '06
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Paul DeBettignies '95
Chapter Advisor
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Greek Village Meeting and Update

At the February Northern Deke meeting we had a great turnout of Alumni to hear the Greek Village proposal. After hearing the proposal from Eric Kruse, Builders Representative, we were able to ask questions about the project.

Much of the conversation with Eric focused on the financing of the project and the selling/leasing of the parking lot. Questions were also asked about the Proforma that he had been working.

While there were many questions regarding financing, legal, and liability issues the conversation was productive.

A vote was taken at the end of the meeting to continue to participate in the conversations regarding the Greek Village and also for a letter of support of the plan.

George Serdar '68 made some historical comments regarding the Greek community, Phi Epsilon,

and the U of M. George pointed out to the group that while there is some risk in this or any project that this may be the time for Northern Deke to make a bold and assertive move forward.

The Greek community is forming a Greek Village Work Group with elected representatives that will steer this project. A meeting of the 1700 block has been held with future meetings being planned.



Phi Epsilon Crest

"Phi Epsilon raised \$400 for the U of M Cancer Hospital during its Crush Week."



*Ashton Holdgrafer,
youngest Phi Epsilon
Pledge*

Northern Deke Notes

-At the February meeting Brian Cox '96 was elected interim Northern Deke President.

-Fire Doors and other mechanical equipment have been installed on most of the bedroom and common area doors. We have one more round of updating to do.

-First Friday Lunch has been regularly attended by a revolving group of

five Alumni. While this is a good start we are looking for a venue and time that will allow more Alumni to attend.

-Northern Deke has created its own Blog, www.mndeke.blogspot.com/n_dke. Weekly updates on the actions of the Board, contact lists, and other news can be found here.

Phi Epsilon Notes

-4 men were initiated in April

-Crush Week was another success as we crowned Gina Rozinka, Alpha Phi, our Crush Queen.

We raised \$400 for the U of M Cancer Hospital and will continue to donate our time to working with kids

-Parents Day was another

success as our parents came from all parts of the region to have lunch with us. The chapter house sparkled as usual and many comments were made on how the house looks better every year.

-Dave Jennings was admitted into Order of Omega, Greek honor society

-New Chapter web site, www.mndeke.org

-New Chapter Blog, www.mndeke.blogspot.com

Alumni Notes

-Tim and Kelly Holdgrafer '90 had a baby boy on June 13. Ashton is the first member of the Fall 2023 pledge class.

-James Rosso '97 has been working on photo and picture archives from 1990's.

-Eric Holland '04 has been working on new ceiling tiles in the basement.

-Paul DeBettignies '95 has been working with David Easlick, Executive Director of DKE, to form a networking group for Deke Alumni around the world.

An invitation has been sent to all Dekes with current email addresses. At this point more than 230 Dekes have signed up on the LinkedIn site. For more information email Paul.

Message From Dennis Gerber, DKE Consultant

Greetings Alumni of Phi Epsilon. My name is Dennis Gerber and I am the DKE Consultant for 29 chapters including Minnesota.

I have made two trips to Minnesota this academic year. The first was in September, which actually was my first trip for DKE. After making a stop in the Chicago area to visit our chapters there I made the drive to Minneapolis.

Prior to my visit I had been in touch with Paul DeBettignies, Chapter Advisor, and had been prepped on the state of the chapter, Greek community, and relations with the University.

I was excited to get there

and was just as excited when I left. Your chapter at the U of M is in a great place at the moment. The students are working and studying hard, Northern Deke has been very easy to work with and is supportive of the chapter and DKE, and your university is very supportive of the Greek community.

In February I made a return trip to Minneapolis. The focus was on recruitment and to participate in the Greek Village conversation.

During the week I met with Paul, Dave Jennings the new chapter President, and Chad Ellsworth the universities Greek Advisor.

We put together a broad recruitment plan for the next year.

The Greek Village looks to be a sound housing project and while there are sure to be many hurdles along the way the end product will surely be a positive for your group.

Plans are in the works for me to be back next August and/or September to continue working with recruitment of new members for Phi Epsilon.

I look forward to working with Dave, Paul, and Brian Cox this next year and we at DKE are very excited about the direction you are going in.

Dennis Gerber, DKE Consultant, has visited Phi Epsilon twice during the recent academic year with another trip scheduled for this Fall.

Chapter House Updating and Financial Plan

At the February meeting Brian Cox and Paul DeBettignies were asked to make a list of improvements that were needed to the Chapter house, prioritize them, begin getting estimates on potential costs and develop a plan to fund the project(s).

Brian and Paul have been meeting with Bob Shiff, Zeta Beta Tau from the 60's, who is a property manager has been working on behalf of Alpha

Tau Omega for more than a year.

Bob has walked through the Chapter house two times and a list of items has been created.

Brian and Paul have been working on a Northern Deke Financial Plan that includes a prioritized list all of the updates needed for the house, financial statements, ideas for future fundraising, and a timeline.

The plan has been placed

on the Northern Deke Blog and comments are being taken.

Northern Deke has been working with a property manager to assess updates needed to the Chapter house.

Phi Epsilon Alumni Search

“Many Phi Epsilon Alumni have sent messages of support in recent months, including Ed Lechner ‘42”

“Please send us your mailing address for the summer mailing.”

Work has been underway for about three months to reach out to our fellow Alumni. Our email list has been growing steadily and we are finding updated addresses for those we temporarily lost.

In April we received from DKE headquarters their list of Phi Epsilon and also those Dekes from other chapters that are living in Minnesota.

Many more email addresses were found and including those Brothers from other chapters our email list is nearly 200.

After sending the Deke Roar and adding our Brothers from other chapters we received many, many messages from Alumni sending their best wishes, wondering how to get involved, and asking about Brothers from their era.

We received messages from the following Alumni:

- Brad Reid '99
- Brian Basler '89
- John Kinney '88
- Don Johnson '01
- Brett Lundeen '86
- Tad Shaw '54
- John Gosz '90
- Allan Pavek '92
- Hugh Arey '50
- Evan Larson '81
- Earl Wettstein '53
- John Roemer '89
- John Haag '86
- Gary Sodahl '69
- Harvey Spelkoman '75
- Wade Prozeller of Miami '70
- Ross Kramer of Washington '63
- Jay Garey of Wisconsin '97.

The following hand written message was also received,

“Thanks for the email and the work for the Deke Brothers. I am from an old vintage, 1940.” The message was from Dr. Ed Lechner '42 and he included his summer address and phone number in Mendota Heights.

Ed was a member of the 1940 and 1941 National Champion Gopher Football teams. Ed was a lineman at the U of M, played a partial season for the New York Giants, and had a dental practice for many years in St. Paul.

The work being done by Northern Deke and the Phi Epsilon chapter is reaching far and wide and we will continue to reach out to our Brothers. This summer we plan on doing a postal service mailing to continue this process.



Greek & University Community News

-In the previous issue there was an item titled Minnesota Greek Alumni Partnership (MGAP) and there were questions about how the group functions.

Basically MGAP is an umbrella group for the Alum groups, men's and women's, and work on over arching or common

projects to all of the groups.

MGAP has been working with the recruitment chairs of the IFC and PHC and participating in their round tables.

MGAP is partnering with the universities Alumni association to plan social and networking

opportunities for Alumni.

On their web site, www.umngreekalumni.com, MGAP has started a job/internship posting board for students, recent graduates, and Alumni.

Northern Deke and Phi Epsilon are members of MGAP.

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We're on the Web!

See us at:
www.mndeke.org
www.mndeke.blogs.com

Greek & University Community News (continued)

For more information you can also check out their new Blog, which is updated weekly on news for the Greek community, at

www.mgap.typepad.com.

-The Greek Action Council is changing its focus and its name to the University Greek Partnership Board. The focus of the group will be the implementation of the Partnership Statement between the Greek

community and the University.

-University Ave Streetscape project. The University is proposing a project along both sides of University Ave between 35W and Oak Street.

University Ave serves as the gateway to the U of M. Plans call for burying of utility lines; adding trees, bushes, and hedge rows; new lighting; and

ornamental banners.

The University is raising funds and believes it can do this project without property owners receiving a special assessment. The project may be completed by Fall of 2006.

DELTA KAPPA EPSILON

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