



Delta Mu 'N You

Monthly Newsletter of the Delta Mu Alumni Association
 Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity
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July 21, 2012-Off and Running



Bring back memories? Ed Albritton (left), Buddy Mardis (top left), Ron Martin (top right), Mike Ball on the wheel of mascot fire engine #2 Homecoming '62.



July 21, 2012 Annual Meeting Attendees: Front left-right, Ken Forte, Al Holder, Jimmy Baker, Jack Cistriano. Second row: Michael Wilson, Paul Broussard, Bill Kortman, Bill Lovett, Tom Berry Dickson, Dale Stewart, Thomas Dudley, Jim Bloodworth, Clarence Smith. Not pictured: Vic Purvis, Pat Sheehan, Will Chandler, Josh Schutts.

Well, you asked for it and there it is. The picture of the Brothers who breathed life into the Delta Mu Alumni Association on July 21, 2012.

Pike Honored At ECU Game

DMAA's Distinguished President Emeritus Lamar "Skippy" Reynolds, in a pre-game ceremony was recognized as the "Fan of the Game" at the USM-ECU football game. In his wheelchair it was Skippy's honor to meet with and present to official game ball to the referees out at the 50-yard line.

Since that time Skippy has spent time in the hospital dealing with a 600+-level blood sugar and his Multiple Sclerosis. It is now believed he is about to enter a therapy regiment.

Awards Ceremony

Back in July, 2012, Brother Skippy Reynolds was nominated for several initial posts with the infant Delta Mu Alumni Association, but due to health complications was unable to accept those nominations. So, the membership attending the founding meeting voted unanimously to create an honor on behalf of Skippy and voted to create the "Distinguished President Emeritus" position expressly for this beloved Brother..

At Homecoming and the Pike Open House, that award will be presented to Skippy. If he's unable to attend, it will be taken to his home and presented.

Also at the Homecoming awards ceremony, the Delta Mu Chapter will be presented a copy of something most of you have never seen. That being a framed copy of the long-lost original 1949 Chapter Charter to be hung in the Alumni Room.

A plaque denoting that in 1967, the Pike House was formally dedicated to our beloved "Mom" Bonnie Gibson will be affixed to the lobby wall.

The original charter plaque of the Delta Mu Alumni Association will also be presented and hung in the Alumni Room beside the 1949 Chapter Charter.

And, a large 11 X 14 coffee table book dating from the 1949 Charter through 1965 containing chapter class composites, activities and news photo's, plus narratives and first-hand stories from those infamous legends of our time. A copy of this book is permanently enshrined in the USM Archives.

New DMAA Members

DMAA Treasurer Josh "Wisconsin" Schutts reports we've added 7 new voting members in the month of September bringing the total to 39 of the 300 receiving monthly newsletters.

A mail-out campaign has begun in an effort to let the approximately 1000 Delta Mu initiates who have no listed email information with National know of our existence and the work we're doing.

Chapter Happenings

SMC Tanner Williams and Alumni Relations Chairman Dailey Johnson inform us that to their knowledge, the 32 new Pledges gained during Rush are the most the Chapter has gained since the 1949 Pledge Class (I'm sure there will be some discussion in this area).

On last Saturday morning before the cold rains began, the Chapter hit the streets of Hattiesburg for a car wash benefit to raise money for Alumni Brother Matt Wilkinson who has two (2) newborn boys in Intensive Care.

Their goal was to raise \$500 to help with the hospital costs, but when the cash box was tallied, to their surprise they almost hit the \$700 mark.

Chapter Happenings

DMAA Financial Auditor and former Delta Mu SMC Tyler Allen and SMC Tanner Williams will revisit resurrecting a fraternity ritual that hasn't been seen around campus for a number of years involving the scripture of Ezekial and the symbolism of skeleton keys provided each Pledge.

Thus far, I've managed to locate 26 of the 32 skeleton keys needed. Have any laying around in a junk key box you could send?

The Delta Mu Chapter is sending out a letter of "Welcome To The Family" to each Pledge and Member's family with assurances that the Chapter will be looking out for their sons by reinforcing the positive things of fraternity life. It will not specifically mention the incident that made national news and got the University of Memphis PiKA charter yanked and kicked off campus until at least 2015.

Tailgating At The Game

A number of Alumni faces have been appearing this year at the PIKE tailgate tents in front of the Ogletree Alumni House (back in our day, that was the President's House). The tents are easy to find being situated straight in front of the Alumni House on what is now known as "The District" squarely on the corner of the Hwy 49 frontage road (Northwood Drive) and Southern Miss Drive.

Come enjoy the food and beverages. Share some lies (stories) with the current members and pledges. There's a lot they don't know about back in the day.

Need Your Assistance

As has been noted, this monthly newsletter will be distributed via email. Our email list currently consists of approximately 350 names of the some 1500 Delta Mu Alumni we currently know exist based on the 2012 Pi Kappa Alpha Registry.

Our early financial condition simply does not allow us to do much mailing of information.

Talk to your circle of Delta Mu Brothers and see if they are aware of the Association's existence and of the new monthly newsletter. If not, and they would like to receive the newsletter, we ask you to forward their names and email addresses to the Association at dmpikeaa@gmail.com.

Become a dues paying DMAA member. Right now, it's cheap and it helps your Delta Mu Alumni Association continue to function.

Don't forget, we are asking for donations for the "Mom" Gibson plaque denoting the Pike House was formally dedicated by the Mississippi Governor, the President of the University and by National to Mom when it opened in 1967 following the 1966 fire that destroyed the old Pike House.

The Chapter officers need a private room at the Pike House in which to take care of Chapter business. Plans are to convert a large junk closet in the Alumni Room into that private office. We need computer desks, desktop computers, filing cabinets and a wireless printer.

In the form of 30-60 year old trophies, much PiKA history-your history- is sitting on the fireplace hearth, being abused, broken and unmaintained. We would like to get the trophies repaired, cleaned and put in a glass front trophy case (or two) in the lobby. To do that, we need somewhere between \$2000 and \$3500 in donations.

In The Brotherhood,

Al Holder, President
Ken Forte, Vice President
Josh Schutts, Treasurer
Jimmy Baker, Secretary

Here's A Surprise To Some



Yes, Winky, there were two mascot PiKA firetrucks, not one. Fire Chief, Ed Allbritton would tell you this was a 1927 American La France 100 foot hook and ladder he found stored under a building at the Jackson (MS) city dump and the Chapter acquired from the City of Jackson for \$100.

On a rainy, cold day, it was hooked behind a tractor-trailer unit belonging to a now defunct Hattiesburg motor-common-carrier with Ed on the firetruck wheel and was towed down in front of the old Pike House. Ed and passenger Brother Steve Pocari were soaked and almost suffering hypothermia when they arrived.

This is the mascot's first and last official appearance, the 1959 Homecoming Parade.

And, that's this writer topside of the ladder unit playing with the crowd by swinging the trailing ladders out over their heads.

Coming back to campus, we were catching some static from a carload of KA's and having independent control of the ladder unit, while the engine was in the right lane of HWY 49, I put the ladder unit in the left lane of the highway. Thus, we had some irrate KA's on our hand by the time we reached Hardy Street.

In the Spring of 1960, Ed and I were taking the truck to be repainted. There was a slight grade and a stop sign on the route.

Ed decided to not come to a complete stop at the sign.

Too late. The old mechanical brakes would not stop that big hunk of iron in time to not make right, broadside of a brown Chevrolet Impala approaching from our left.

Impact broke the old brittle steering mechanisms and turned the power unit in a tight right turn. Houston, there's a problem.

There were two telephone poles between which I had to take the ladder unit. See, the ladder unit must go left first if the power unit goes right. As I'm cranking on the ladder unit steering wheel, I can see two things: Ed fighting a steering wheel that does absolutely nothing and an old lady, eyes the size of dinner plates, sitting on her front porch as this big red, noisy contraption heads straight for her front screen porch door and up two steps before the engine, now scrap iron, died and we rolled back off her steps.