



Delta Mu 'N You

Monthly Newsletter of the Delta Mu Alumni Association
Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity
Box 25
Hattiesburg, MS 39403-0025
dmpikeaa@gmail.com

First Edition Newsletter

Beginning this month, September 2012, the newly chartered Delta Mu Alumni Association of the Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity, will begin publishing and distributing by email a monthly newsletter entitled "Delta Mu 'N You" for the purpose of keeping you informed as to what's going on with both the Association and the on-campus Delta Mu chapter.

Why "Delta Mu 'N You" and not the name of the former Delta Mu newsletter, "The Delta Mu Chew"? Three reasons.

First, in looking at the history of the "Delta Mu Chew" from its inception, "The Chew" was birthed, died, was reborn and died again several times. In fact, "The Chew" has been resurrected more times than Lazarus.

Second, for those of us cruising the campus back in the '50's it conjures up memories of the "jocks" who roamed the grounds with their "chaws" of Beechnut chewing tobacco firmly implanted in their cheek and the vision of their spit cup in hand.

Third, whether you've been absent the campus for many years or not, the heart and soul of the brotherhood that is Delta Mu is, in fact, YOU and will be long after we've achieved Chapter Eternal. The title of the newsletter reinforces that.

Your 2012-2014 elected officers, Al Holder '61 - SMC, Ken Forte '59 - IMC, Josh Schutts '00 - ThC and I, Jimmy Baker '11 - SC, hope you will find the newsletter both informative and entertaining.

Permanent Mailing Address

Should you have a desire to drop us a note, ask a question, perhaps send \$25 Annual voting member dues or \$125 Lifetime voting member dues, the address is:

Delta Mu Alumni Association
Box 25
Hattiesburg, MS 39403-0025

Email Address

Care to contact the Delta Mu Alumni Association by email? That's now possible via our new email address:

dmpikeaa@gmail.com

Chapter Happenings

SMC Tanner Williams reports that Hurricane Isaac resulted in classes being halted Tuesday and Wednesday, August 28-29, but resumed Thursday, the 30th. The Pike House suffered no damage.

For this, the Fall semester, the Pike House is full. That takes a financial strain off the Chapter.

The Chapter have signed, for Rush, 17 prospective members. and bid day will be September 22. Alumni are welcome to attend.

With Rush now being one-on-one contact as opposed to the old style Rush Week, to assist in assuring the members can meet and exceed the required GPA, the Chapter has established a standard that prospective Rushees/Pledges must meet instead of simply going for head count to bolster financial reasons.

For Chapter members, pledges and Alumni returning for the ECU game at 2:30PM, Saturday, September 15 which is the kickoff of the 100th year celebration of football for USM, the Chapter has planned a cookout at the district. For those of you, who like me, did not know where "the district" is on campus, turns out it is the grassy knoll directly in front of the Ogletree Alumni House down in the southeast corner of the campus near the intersection of Hwy 49 and Hardy Street.

For some of us the landmark would probably be best described as in front of the big white house east of the infamous Lake Byron, known back in the day as the only rubber-bottom lake in the State.

With the assistance of the Delta Mu Alumni Association, the Chapter has a goal of garnering the Harvey T. Newell Award as the most improved chapter come June 2013.

Association Happenings

Association President Al Holder reports a cause celebres by a '66 PiKA member, Ed Langton, CEO of Grand Bank For Savings in Hattiesburg. It was Ed's generous donation to USM that resulted in the impressive new Hardy Street entrance called the "Centennial Gateway" being built and was so recognized at its 2010 dedication ceremony. The next time you come on campus through the Gateway or the next time you drive down Hardy Street past it, smile, be proud of the accomplishments and generosity of Delta Mu Brother Ed Langton.

Following a DMAA investigation, Adam Russell Baxter '06 has been affirmed to have been initiated on campus before departing to complete his degree down at the Gulf Coast campus.

Come the first of September, Academic Advisor for the Association, Brother Stan Gwin '60, recently retired Professor Emeritus-Communications, will roll out his program designed to improve the Delta Mu's GPA and overall study habits.

Brother Stan has set a high standard for the members and pledges which he believes can be achieved. He's promoting a 3.0 or better GPA.

Last semester's GPA was, after not achieving University accepted level for three (3) successive semesters, was 2.6. And, it was just announced the basketball team in the summer studies made a 2.89 GPA.

So, a goal of 3.0 doesn't seem too far-fetched.

Brother Michael Wilson, a CPA and the Treasurer of the Delta Region of PiKA, has volunteered to assist in keeping the Chapter's financials in order.

While seeking donations of office furniture, two desktop computers and a wireless printer, the Association is preparing to turn a large junk room off the Alumni Room into a much needed Chapter office where the SMC and other officers will have a private and secure location to do their work and maintain the Chapter's business records.

When the Pike House was dedicated in 1967, with the Governor of the State of Mississippi and USM President William D. McCain attending, it was named in honor of our beloved house mother, Mrs. Bonnie G. Gibson. There is no public evidence of her having received that honor. Working with the Chapter, that oversight will be soon corrected by placing a plaque so acclaiming that honor in the lobby of the Pike House.

There is a move afoot to take all the trophies, many of which are historic in the annals of Greek Life at USM, dating back 50-60 years, sitting on the hearth of the fireplace, open to and receiving abuse, and have them repaired, cleaned and placed in a large glassed in trophy case in the lobby of the Pike House where they can be protected and properly maintained. This will take place, given your donations toward that end.

Association Happenings (continued)

Working with the Chapter, the University's Housing Corporation and National, the financial pall that threatened the continued existence of the Chapter on-campus and it's National charter this semester is no longer, following the execution of a promissory note to the Association by the Chapter and payment of creditors.

Based on the number and need of Delta Mu members who meet or exceed the 3.0 GPA established for the Association's scholarship program, academic achievement will be rewarded in the form of a scholarship based on the receipts for tuition, books and fees received by the Association's Executive Committee.

And, yes, there is a scholarship fund already in existence. It was discovered shortly after the Association was chartered and consists of many of the donations to the less successful attempts over the past 30 years to form an Alumni Association and other sources. Those funds are set aside strictly for scholarships and endeavors that directly relate to the academic achievement of the Delta Mu Chapter members. By Federal Tax Code, it cannot be used by the Association as an operating fund. And in our tax-emption application, we made a sworn statement to use that designated fund only for educational purposes.

Need Your Assistance

As was noted in the opening of this newsletter, distribution of news and the newsletter will be via email. On our current email list currently exists some 350 names of Brothers, though we know, based on incomplete data from National, there are approximately 1500 Brothers out there somewhere.

Talk to your circle of Delta Mu brothers and see if they are aware of the Association's existence and of the monthly newsletter.

If not, and they would like to receive the newsletter, we ask you to forward their names and contact information to the Association at its email address, dmpikeaa@gmail.com.

Or contact Secretary, Jimmy Baker, via his email, Spudnut39@att.net.

REMEMBER, without your financial support the Delta Mu Alumni Association will have a difficult time remaining in operation. If you are a non-voting member, reconsider remaining passive. The time has come to step up and send in your Annual Dues of not less than \$25 become a voting member. For dues of \$125 or more, your status becomes a Lifetime Voting Member.