



The Stimulator

Gamma-Xi Chapter of Kappa Sigma Fraternity
Granville, Ohio — August 2013

Virtual Chapter House

Visit our improved website at www.kappasigmadenison.com to get important member-only access to the latest news about Gamma-Xi.

If you have not yet received your new username and password by email, please contact websupport@affinityconnection.com with your member ID (found above the mailing label in this publication) and full name.

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Hunter Hughes
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Grand Scribe

Grant Veltman
(Grand Rapids, MI)

IN MEMORIAM

We recently learned of the passing of the following brothers:

- Webster Jones '44**
- Carl Hummer Jr. '48**
- Richard Sproat '50**
- Charles Lundquist '51**
- Jefferson Layson Jr. '60**
- Harmon Stromberg '66**
- Daniel Thaxton '67**
- Thomas Fuller '67**
- Christopher Keefer '69**
- Robert Campbell '83**

Our sympathies go out to their families and friends.

ACTIVE CHAPTER REPORT

Undergrads Excel at Academics and Athletics

By Grant Veltman, Grand Scribe, Gamma-Xi Chapter of Kappa Sigma

It has been a tremendous year for Gamma-Xi on campus, despite a tension-filled spring semester due to events outlined in the article below. After a successful rush period, we recruited nine pledges who have been learning about the traditions and values of Kappa Sig. Graduating just nine seniors this past spring, our membership count holds steady.

Currently, Gamma-Xi has the 3rd highest cumulative GPA amongst all other national fraternities on campus. Academics performance continues to be a top priority for the brothers. **George Park** ended the first semester with the chapter's highest GPA, at 3.95. In addition, Brothers **Casey Cempre** and **Grant Veltman** were honored as two of the Top 50 Scholar-Athletes.

We also had our 3rd Annual Kappa Sigma Squash Tournament, which raised over \$500 for

our military heroes. The tournament was held in the Mitchell Athletic center and featured male and female individual brackets.

In sports, our fellow brother, **Allen Weik**, just won an individual national championship in swimming. He won the events of the 500 freestyle, defending his title from last year, and won the 1,650-yard race, making this his third national victory in a row for that event.

~~We can't close out the academic year without~~ once again thanking those alumni who came out for our 100th anniversary event. The key to a successful active chapter is strong alumni engagement and support. Hearing your stories and witnessing the lifelong bonds of brotherhood made such a positive impact on us. Thank you for helping us keep the Gamma-Xi legacy alive at Denison.

GAMMA-XI - DENISON RELATIONS

Fraternity Pulls Together Under DU Scrutiny

By Dave Horning '72

I would like to bring the Kappa Sigma alumni ~~up to date~~ regarding the 2013 spring semester's events. These events are part of an on-going interaction between the Denison University administration and Gamma-Xi chapter.

Over the last 40 years, I have seen many run-ins between the chapter and Denison's department of student life/student affairs/student development. Most have been over infractions regarding alcohol or parties. The traditional punishment has been a suspension of social activities and in some cases workshops on risk management. The cases have typically been carried out without recorded investigations and hearings, and with poor documentation of charges and outcomes. I have not written of these incidents to alumni since they were somewhat ordinary.

More recently, however, the shift has been

to scrutinizing the chapter for "violations of student conduct," principally *hazing*. The stakes have gone up as charges result in house activities being suspended while an investigation goes on, and a guilty charge can result in a loss of the chapter's charter, as it did in 2004.

You may remember the 2004 charge of hazing resulted from a car accident involving four pledges that were on their way to DC to visit alumni. No one was hurt, but the father of the driver threatened suits to DU and National for the cost of the car. The trip was not chapter mandated, but because it was allowed to happen, it fell under the hazing definition since pledges were "placed in harm's way." Our Alumni Board challenged the decision, but the result was still a mutual decision on the part of Denison and National to remove the charter for

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THE GAMMA-XI DIFFERENCE: IN YOUR WORDS

We asked several alumni to tell us about the impact Kappa Sig and the fraternity experience had on their lives. Here's what they said:

Through Gamma-Xi, I got many jobs. Each job seemed to lead to another—19 in all. I had turned pro in 1939, so I could not be on the golf team. However, I could teach the girls and give a hand to the men who took care of the horses at the College Barn for Al Morgan and exercised horses for Sally Jones and Vince Hitt. I lived in Curtis my first year, Talbot my second. I made money as head waiter at the lower Sem as student assistant in Biology,

and free room for being student dorm monitor. I left when the war started but had enough pre-med credits to use after my stint as Navy corpsman. Without the fraternity, I don't believe my future would have been so fulfilling. - **Richard R. Royer '45**

The friendships that were forged during my Kappa Sigma experience have, in many cases, turned out to be lifelong friendships that have been deep and meaningful. It was not the Kappa Sigma experience, per se, but rather the group of people that chose to come together as a family of sorts during that time

and place. When religious intolerance briefly surfaced from a national KZ representative, I was awed by those who stood up and said it was not acceptable in our house. I remember being incredibly moved by those who stood up and said no; many of whom I had not previously felt close to. That changed my perception, not only of those people, but also of how we humans bring our own internal discretionary judgments and perspectives to a given situation and of how, for the greater good, it is effective to view life from wider perspectives. - **James A. Weinkle '78**

GAMMA-XI - DENISON RELATIONS

four years pending the then current members' graduation.

Our chapter returned in February, 2011 and has been thriving in a newly renovated house with the help of improved attention from the National Fraternity, local alumni advisors, and solid chapter leadership.

This brings us to February 26, 2013, when the University again leveled charges of "violations of student conduct." The charges carried with them the immediate suspension of all chapter activities including access to the lodge (bottom floor) and a prohibition of all gatherings including weekly chapter meetings. The suspension of all activities was unprecedented as was the publication of the chapter's suspension on both Denison's website and Wikipedia. Denison also contacted Kappa Sigma National which resulted in a further suspension and subsequent investigation.

The chapter never resumed activities for the remainder of the semester but **has been cleared of all hazing charges**. The Board was very involved because of the serious nature of the charges and even sought legal counsel when the University broke into the house closet and removed ritual items.

The nature of Denison's approach is the impetus of this article. It was based on the search of a sophomore's room for marijuana in which a notebook was confiscated. The notebook contained ideas for pledge activities, some of which would have been considered hazing.

The charges resulted in two investigations, first by the alumni advisor and myself, then a team from National. As mentioned, Denison Security also searched the chapter house including the break-in of a privately locked closet. There were two documented

security reports produced. The final outcome was a dropping of all hazing charges by Denison and National, with a year of National Trusteeship over a drinking violation uncovered during the investigations. I wrote a letter to Denison on the Board's behalf and included a legal opinion from our lawyer.

The Board was quite upset by the details of this incident including what we saw as a violation of Fourth Amendment rights on the part of the student and toward the house corporation. We are frankly concerned that it represents a more aggressive strategy by DU toward fraternities, but will keep a cautiously optimistic attitude.

Rather than go into more detail here, I invite you to visit the Kappa Sigma at Denison website (www.kappasigmadenison.com).

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(www.kappasigmadenison.com), where we have placed all the surrounding documentation for you to read, including the Board's response. **In order to keep this information as private as possible, you will need to get a site ID and password in order to view the many documents relating to these incidents.** I can also send you a copy of the Board's letter upon request (dwhorning@gmail.com).

Finally, I would like to acknowledge the great support from Kappa Sigma National, including Toby Taylor and especially ~~that~~ of Mic Wilson, Executive Director. Mic has been a dedicated supporter of Gamma-Xi as long as I can remember, from before the 1995 decision to go non-residential, through our recolonization effort. He deeply cares about our chapter.

Please log into www.kappasigmadenison.com to read the following member-only documents:

Notice of Charges Alleged Violation of the Code of Student Conduct 2-27-13.

rtf - Original letter to chapter charging Gamma-Xi with hazing (violation of student conduct).

Kappa Sigma-Denison-Initial Report.pdf - Initial DU security investigation report.

Kappa Sigma Notebook p1 - p4.jpg - pages of confiscated student notebook leading to allegations.

Kappa Sigma Lodge Space-Break-In Report.pdf - Second DU security investigation report where reasons for break-in of chapter closet are given.

Gamma-Xi Investigation Report (3.6.13).pdf - Alumni Advisor's report on his investigation

of the active chapter's allegations.

Kappa Sigma National Corrected Sanction Decision 4-29-13.pdf - National's final report and decision to DU and the chapter regarding the allegations.

Denison Administrative action 6-4-2010. **rtf** - Denison's final decision where the chapter is cleared of hazing charges.

Board Letter of Response To DU 7-9-13. **doc** - Gamma-Xi Board's letter to Denison University on issues regarding the entire incident.

Letter to Denison re. Search_final.pdf - Lawyer's opinion letter of legal implication of Denison's search of the house closet. (Lawyer was hired by the Board).

ALUMNI UPDATES

Jack Ubersax '53

(1 Lodge Ln Wilbraham, MA 01095-1629; ubers1@charter.net) I spent 31 years in field sales and service management with Warner and Swasey Co. That career taught me much that I apply even now as an independent contractor, enlarging the customer base for a CT provider of automated assembly systems. The discipline of a



good college education, appropriate subject materials and behaviors learned at Denison, played a big part in any business success that I have enjoyed.

Go online to www.kappasigmadenison.com to read Jack's alumni profile.

Bruce A. Corrie '57

(2787 St. James Dr. Southport, NC 28461-8531; postseason@ec.rr.com) Since graduation I served in the Air Force after ROTC at Denison, received my Masters and Doctorate degrees from Indiana University, had a Fulbright Grant to Greece, and taught in Turkey during a sabbatical leave. During my career in Intercollegiate Athletics, I was Head Lacrosse Coach at Duke University, Director of Athletics at Bucknell University, Robert Morris University, and Northwestern University. I wrote a book "The History of the Atlantic Coast Conference" and was

More Great Stories from our Alumni

We received updates from many more alumni, which we will be featuring online at www.kappasigmadenison.com.

We'd also like to thank the following alumni who participated in this semester's alumni Q&As. Their profiles will be published online in the very near future: Judge C.

Pfeiffer Trowbridge '50, Bill Norman '51, Bruce A. Corrie '57, Tim Schramm '59, James A. Weinkle '78, and Craig M. Robertson '94.

If you aren't receiving our monthly emails currently, please go online and register today!

selected to both Denison's and Robert Morris University's Halls of Fame.

Thomas W. Young III '64

(2522 Newbury St. Port Charlotte, FL 33952-7114; youngtw@comcast.net) After practicing labor law for 40 years, I am semi-retired, doing grievance arbitration and mediation of collective bargaining impasses in the public sector. The remainder of my time is spent boating, fishing scuba diving, playing golf, and enjoying traveling with my wife of 40 years and spending time with my children and grandchildren. Life is good.



Bob P. "Colonel" Johnson Jr. '66

(9115 Prestwick Club Dr. John's Creek, Georgia 30097; bobcarts@bellsouth.net) We had a terrific time at Kappa Sig from 1962 to 66. We increased House from 35 to 105 and grades from last all the time to first. In fact, all the Frats were good; men and women had to get along, which helped in future business. All my family is in Atlanta and the rest of family went to Georgia, but I still follow Denison and Kappa Sig.

Robert L. Ashbaugh '67

(60 Princeton Ave Rocky Hill, NJ 08553-1004; rashbaugh1@verizon.net) I was an attorney and senior executive at Department of Justice and then a charter official in Department of Homeland Security when it began. I retired to Princeton, N.J., where I was a guest member of the Law and Public Affairs Program, Woodrow Wilson School, Princeton University, for the next two years. Now I am a first responder and Treasurer of Princeton First Aid & Rescue Squad, working on building and capital campaign to raise \$7.5M. Kappa Sig provided the smaller community where I could grow. Most liked the hoary old secret initiation rites. What fun! But, I still will not eat ravioli because of Hell Week. Onions and lemons, ummm good!

Thomas C. Demo '68

(1784 N. Medina Line Rd. Akron, OH 44333-2507; tdemo@roadrunner.com) I have been retired from high school teaching since 1999. I work out every day, still play in basketball tournaments all over the country. Our 65 and over basketball team that won the Master's Basketball national champion-

ship last year in Florida is going to Italy this August to compete in the World Master's Championships. My wife, Julie, who I married my senior year at Denison, and I celebrated our 45th anniversary last month.

John E. Brewer '70

(10673 Jones Rd. Clarence, NY 14031-2329; jebrewer@buffalo.edu) I am currently in the Republic of the Congo doing a couple months of mission medicine. I am still in Family Medicine at the University of Buffalo, but I am now only part time, doing palliative care and geriatrics in patient's homes.

William Hunter '85

(3683 Saint Andrews Ln Gastonia, NC 28056-7571; hunterbkc@aol.com) I graduated from Denison in 1985. I then went to Georgetown Medical School and completed a residency in Neurosurgery at Georgetown University Hospital in Washington, D.C. I am now in Charlotte, N.C. performing brain and spine surgery. I married my wife, Karen. We are now busy watching our boys play basketball.

Ben B. Tuttle '87

(434 W Hill Rd Glen Gardner, NJ; 08826-3251; bentuttle@embarqmail.com) I recently changed positions and am the Regional President, Inland Marine, at One Beacon Insurance Company. I continue to reside in New Jersey.

Craig M. Robertson '94

(34 Bittersweet Lane Mount Kisco, NY 10549; craig.m.robertson@accenture.com) I had two sets of fraternal twins, and managed to keep a job. I am now global managing director of Accenture's Life Sciences Marketing and sales practice.

DID YOU KNOW?

What is something the current actives may not know about the house?

More than a few times, cars rolled down the front lawn, hit the house, and shook the foundation ... the curve in front of the house is known as grumpy man's curve.

– **Craig Robertson '94**

PLEDGES & GRADS

The following young men became pledges at the start of the spring semester:

Zane Osler
(Oak Park, IL)

Oliver Hamilton
(San Francisco, CA)

Charlie Vinopal
(Park Ridge, IL)

John Hayes
(Lake Forest, IL)

Steffen Listerman
(Xenia, OH)

Andrew Shaw
(Lake Forest, IL)

Charlie Pickhardt
(New Canaan, CT)

Tyler Grasser
(St. Louis, MO)

Javan Proefrock
(Cedarburg, WI)

We'd like to congratulate the following Gamma-Xi brothers who ~~will~~
~~graduate this spring.~~

Shawn Whites
(Galion, OH)

Chase Curtis
(Hamilton, MA)

Brennan Duckett
(Middletown, MD)

Griffin Calkins
(Larchmont, NY)

Henry Francis
(Grinnell, IA)

Julius Smith
(Davidsonville, MD)

Ian Rummler
(Kittery Point, ME)

Ryan Stewart
(Mequon, WI)

Travis Grasser
(St. Louis, MO)

May you continue to grow in your appreciation of Kappa Sig's
values and traditions!

As you leave the campus of Denison, please remember that brotherhood is
"not for an hour, or a college term only, but for life."

HISTORIAN'S CORNER

The Homes of Gamma-Xi – Then and Now

By William R. Wickham '58, Past National Historian of the Kappa Sigma Fraternity

Kappa Sigma and Beta Alpha Delta have called five houses "home" over the years. Each has had a special place in the hearts of those who lived in it and is filled with memories of undergraduate days and alumni reunions at Denison. Each move meant more room and better facilities as the chapter grew and the Alumni Association



developed. It was a long way from the little house on Cherry Street to the beautiful home on ~~the~~ College Hill, built for the chapter by ~~her~~ own alumni. All of the former houses are still standing in Granville, although three have been considerably remodeled.

The first real home of Beta Alpha Delta, on the southwest corner of Cherry and Elm Streets, was rented after three years in Talbot

Hall. It was so small that only four brothers could room there, but the new fraternity was now in its own chapter house. The years here marked the development of Beta Alpha Delta into a strong local fraternity, eagerly accepted into Kappa Sigma. Today, the house is just barely recognizable, having gone through extensive remodeling and enlargement over the years.

Please visit our online community at www.kappasigmadenison.com to read more.



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