

# 160th Anniversary Renovations at Rho

## DELTA KAPPA EPSILON

Rho Chapter of Lafayette College

160th Anniversary Vision

To celebrate the 160th anniversary of the Rho Chapter of Delta Kappa Epsilon on October 15, 2015, DKE and Lafayette College are renewing their commitments to partner with each other by aligning the Objects of DKE with the Mission of Lafayette College to do the following:

- Renovate our Chapter's beloved house
- Build a living learning laboratory to help students expand their potential
- Endow an academic scholarship enabling future students to experience the same educational opportunities we shared as brothers
- Create and endow a faculty award recognizing outstanding faculty contributors towards our partnership



Brothers,

It is with great pleasure this issue of the Rho News announces our plans for the 160<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Rho Chapter. We launch the DKE 160<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Campaign in partnership with Lafayette College with three key components: an endowed scholarship, a faculty award, and a renovation of our beloved DKE House on March Field—the centerpiece of the campaign.

We are scheduled to break ground for this renovation in June, which is only three months away, but these plans have been in the works for a long time. Most of this issue is focused on providing you information on the process, schedule, and the volunteers working to make the DKE 160<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Campaign a success. You will also find updates from our undergraduates including their recent successes and accomplishments.

In the bonds,

Michael De Lisi '03  
President, Rho House Association of Delta Kappa Epsilon  
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<http://www.rhodke.org/> • <http://www.facebook.com/dke.lafayette>



*Far better it is to dare mighty things, to win glorious triumphs even though checkered by failure, than to rank with those poor spirits who neither enjoy nor suffer much because they live in the gray twilight that knows neither victory nor defeat.*



Brother Theodore Roosevelt, Alpha '80

## HOW DID WE GET HERE?

For over a decade, DKE alumni officers spoke with the College about replacing the windows in the DKE House. The cost of replacing windows always led to a discussion about a more substantial renovation of the DKE House. This discussion became more earnest after we made changes to our lease, Lafayette set aside a higher annual budget for maintenance for the DKE House, and we discussed how to commemorate our significant 160<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

Our approach flowed from a rewarding partnership with the College. Although the College owns the DKE House and is the signatory of all contracts, they let DKE select the architects, provide design criteria, select materials, refine requirements, etc. From the beginning the College has been extremely attuned to the concerns of DKE alumni.

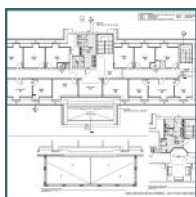
The DKE House will be offline next academic year, during which our undergraduates will live in KDR's house to preserve a fraternal living experience through the renovation period. This tentative housing plan comes with the support of both Lafayette College and KDR's alumni, who own their house.

## WHAT'S BEING DONE?

Life safety upgrades throughout the building and a complete gut of the second and third floors form the core of the College-sanctioned baseline renovation. Rooms will be reconfigured to singles and suite style living. HVAC and other amenities expected by upperclassmen at the College today will be added. The baseline also includes a new commercial kitchen on the first floor, and only minor changes in the basement to enhance the laundry facilities. This baseline renovation calls for a \$2.5 million investment by the College and an \$800k investment by DKE.

There are several additional alternates that we can include if DKE raises enough money. These include a second story addition that also provides covered space in front of the DKE House on March Field, a cupola that opens up the third floor (topped with a Rampant Lion weathervane, of course), and an upgraded façade to more prominently brand the DKE House on March Field. These alternates require an additional \$800k investment from DKE.

Our deadline for including alternates is April 23<sup>rd</sup>. We will make a decision on which to select based on gifts or pledges made by then. To date, we have \$565k of commitments or pledges. If you want to make an impact on the DKE House renovation, please decide your level of support before April 23<sup>rd</sup> and inform the Development office.



*To see conceptual sketches and floor plans, visit our website:*

<http://160years.rhodke.org>



## WHY NOW?

A Testimonial By: Bob Loughlin '53

I have recently visited the Lafayette campus for my sixtieth reunion. This was a wonderful experience. The College has done an extraordinary job of creating and maintaining a beautiful facility. The new quad, absent the roads, provides a new focus for campus life. The result is something of which we can all be very proud. My trip to the Deke house was a shock. This relic of the past reveals fifty hard years of use and abuse. Located in a corner of the campus the shabby, out of date condition is not obvious.

Why? – Was the question when first learning of the renovation concept? Perhaps a coat of paint was needed, but “renovation”? My recent visit opened my eyes to the embarrassment represented by the current house, so inconsistent with the standard of the campus. I commend brothers De Lisi, McCurdy and others for initiating this program. The specifics of this were illustrated in the project drawings and explained by the brothers. The costs are substantial and the College is, as I understand, prepared to fund more than 50% of the costs, and the Brotherhood the balance.

We cannot know the evolving future of campus life, and the role of fraternities. We can have a role in causing our DKE house to be a place of which we can always be proud. When considering your part in this project remember “Friends from the heart forever.” We Dekes have a proud history at Lafayette since 1855. Let us keep this going.

## UNDERGRADUATE UPDATE

### RHO NAMED LION TROPHY RUNNER-UP

Rho Chapter was named runner-up for the much-coveted "Lion Trophy," handed out annually by DKE International to the most deserving DKE chapter. During their bi-annual leadership training conference at the start of the fall semester, the undergraduates aligned their mission statement for the year towards winning the Lion Trophy for Rho, and the Lafayette Greek community as a whole.

### SCHOLARSHIP IMPROVEMENTS

For the fall semester, the **Class of 2014** achieved their highest term GPA, averaged as a group, since they started at Lafayette seven semesters ago. The academic performance of the chapter has been steadily improving since the Greek Life Working Group brought the academic success of fraternities into question several years ago. Undergraduate Scholarship Director **Matthew Soloway '16** and emeritus director **Henry Sandman '15** have been working closely with Alumni Association Scholarship Director **Asela Gunawardana '95** and emeritus director **Scott Harris '95** to track individual progress, and to guide those Dekes whose performance need improvement.

#### Dean's List & 4.0 Semester

- ♦ **Kevin Fasano '15**
- ♦ **Daniel Zakzewski '15**

#### Improved GPA During "New Member Education" Semester

- ♦ **Nick Gurynski '16**
- ♦ **Jordan Roses '16**

#### Dean's List (3.60+)

- ♦ **Kyle Brinkerhoff '14**
- ♦ **Nick DiNino '15**
- ♦ **Brandon Goldstein '15**
- ♦ **Henry Sandman '15**
- ♦ **Luke Spear '15**
- ♦ **Thomas Todd '15**

#### Achieved Career-Best GPA

- ♦ **Daniel Maccabee '14**
- ♦ **Richard Mullin '14**
- ♦ **Matt Tindall '14**
- ♦ **Stephen Vorvolakos '14**

### TAKING OWNERSHIP OF CAPITAL CAMPAIGN FUNDRAISING

The Brothers of Delta Kappa Epsilon hosted a phone-a-thon during the fall semester to raise awareness about the 160th Anniversary Campaign, and to collect donations from willing alumni. The undergraduates thank everyone who participated, as with each gift we become one step closer to achieving our goal.



## BECOME A CAMPAIGN SUPPORTER

DKE undergraduates and alumni alike request your support to make the 160th Anniversary Campaign a successful endeavor. There are a number of ways you can make your contribution or pledge your support.

### ONLINE

To make a one time gift now, you can use the simple form on Lafayette College's online donation website at <http://development.lafayette.edu>. Simply put "DKE 160th Anniversary Campaign" in the box to allocate your gift.

### PHONE

To make the gift by phone or make a formal multi-year pledge, call (610) 330-5034 to speak to a staff member and make a gift using a credit card. Lafayette accepts Visa, MasterCard, and American Express.

### PAYMENT PLAN

Lafayette can set up a convenient method for spreading payment of your annual gift over an entire year through monthly or quarterly payments. To request an enrollment form, please call the development office at (610) 330-5037.

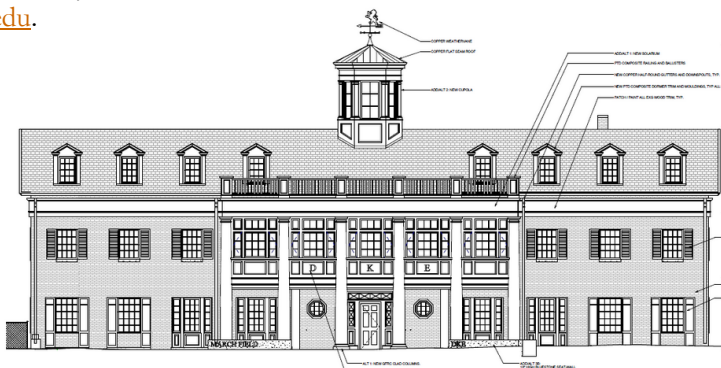
### GIFTS OF STOCK

Thanks to our partnership with Lafayette, you can receive significant tax savings by giving appreciated securities towards our campaign. For more information, please see Lafayette's [online stock transfer form and instructions](#) or contact Jessie Rutz at (610) 330-5046 or [rutzj@lafayette.edu](mailto:rutzj@lafayette.edu).

### MAIL

Gifts can be made by check, payable to "Lafayette College" with "DKE 160th Anniversary Campaign" in the memo line. Checks can be sent to:

Development Office  
Lafayette College  
Box 3000  
Easton, PA 18042



Don't forget to sign up for automatic dues payments at <http://www.rhodke.org/rhodke-dues.php>

*Thank you for your continued support of our great fraternity.*

## COMMUNITY NEWS

- ◆ **Joe Martin '06** earned his MBA from Fordham University.
- ◆ **Hugh Jackson Bubb Jr. '49** of Salladasburg, PA, formerly of Montoursville, PA, passed away on Oct. 4, 2013. He is survived by two daughters & sons-in-law, Margaret and Kevin L. Little, of Salladasburg and Sarah Bubb Martucci '86 & John Martucci, of Birdsboro, as well as his six grandchildren.
- ◆ Daniel Ayala has accepted the position of Greek Life Adviser at Lafayette.
- ◆ The undergraduate DKE intramural soccer team won this year's college-wide championship, marking the fifth consecutive year they've achieved this feat.

*For more brief news and DKE trivia, consider checking out DKE International's daily "This Day in DKE" posts on Facebook; search "Delta Kappa Epsilon Fraternity" to find their page.*

## IN THE SPOTLIGHT: LAFAYETTE LEOPARDS FOOTBALL

### PATRIOT LEAGUE CHAMPS!

After their shocking victory over the 10-0 Fordham Rams on November 16, the Lafayette Leopards football team became tied in the race to become Patriot League champions. The challenger? The Lehigh Mountain Hawks. And with one game left in the season, the annual meeting of the two teams would decide the Patriot League winner.

For the first time since 1994, Lafayette achieved this honor with their 50-28 win over Lehigh at Goodman Stadium in Bethlehem on November 23, breaking their five-year losing streak in the most-played college football rivalry. The Leopards went on to play the University of New Hampshire on November 30, but their winning streak came to an end in a crushing 45-7 loss to the Wildcats.

If you didn't make it to the game, find out more by reading a full game summary written by Brother Beta and Lafayette Newspaper Sports Editor **Mike Kelley '14**.

<http://www.lafayettestudentnews.com/blog/2013/11/23/at-long-last-lafayette-defeats-lehigh-in-the-rivalry/>

### 150TH LAF-LEHIGH GAME AT YANKEE STADIUM

With ticket sales for the historic 150th Lafayette vs. Lehigh rivalry football game at Yankee Stadium in New York well underway, Dekes young and old have already made a massive effort to coordinate ticket purchases for alumni groups interested in attending the November 22, 2014 game.

Organizing the ticket sales for young alumni, **Mike Rupolo '12** has secured 60 tickets for 39 Rho alumni from the classes of 2009-2014, which represents the first six rows of Section 116. "[I'm] very much looking forward to owning this section on game day," said Rupolo. Additionally, **Dan Huffenus '86** rallied the support of 85 brothers from the classes of 1985-2005; half in the Delta Sky 360 Suite, and half in the Mohegan Sun Sport Bar.

Though there are two distinct alumni sections, Rupolo hopes to keep with Lafayette football tradition and "tailgate as an overall organization before the game, regardless of age." The alumni association is also looking into hosting a cocktail reception at the DKE Club of New York the night before the game. Stay tuned for more details.



Forty-seven Rho Deke alumni from '13 to '50 attended the 2013 Homecoming game against Bucknell.

# THE LAFFINYETTE

## New Deke House Set For February Opening

Members of Delta Kappa Epsilon expect to move into a new house in February.

Since fire destroyed their house two years ago, the Dekes have been living in a temporary house on campus and a rented house downtown.

Lafayette College, Easton, Pa., December 15, 1961

The new chapter house, financed by insurance money, school loans and alumni donations, will cost an estimated \$250,000.

Part of the foundation, to be 3 feet underground and approximately 8 feet wide and 20 feet long, will be used as a storeroom and can be converted into a bomb shelter.

The building will also feature facilities for a house mother, but at present the space is planned to be used as a guest room for visiting alumni.

The second floor of the house will accommodate thirty members during the first year of its use. The third floor will not be completed this year.

*All contents of this panel were previously published in "The Lafayette" student newspaper, and are republished here for your entertainment courtesy of the Lafayette College Archives.*

### GOT NEWS?

New Job?

Engagement?

Newborn?

Alumni Outing?

Recent Grad?

Marriage?

Kids at Lafayette?

Other Announcements?

### LET US KNOW!

POST YOUR STORIES AT [www.rhone.org/about/submissions](http://www.rhone.org/about/submissions) OR EMAIL US AT [rhonews@rhodke.org](mailto:rhonews@rhodke.org) !

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THE RHO NEWS