UPCOMING EVENTS

Parents Weekend September 23

Alumni Weekend October 7

Monthly Social Hours

Second Thursday of every month Brothers from Raleigh, Durham, and Chapel Hill are invited.

Contact **Trey Adams** at tadams@lundygroup.com to be added to the email list.

RECOMMEND A DKE

Congratulations to our new rush chairmen:

Joe Janezcko Will Minton Gordon Corey Walker Comer Trevor Gillogly Teddy Gray Kirkland Caison

If you know of a young man that embodies the values of DKE, send your recommendation to Head Rush Chair **Joe Janezcko** at joe.janeczko@gmail.com.

ON THE WEB

We're missing email addresses for more than 200 alumni! If you haven't been receiving our monthly eLetter, update your email address today to stay informed of the latest Beta Chapter news and event details, including information from DKExcellence: The Four Corners Campaign.

You can update your email address at <u>www.dkeunc.com</u> or by sending it to <u>alumninews@</u> <u>affinityconnection.com</u> (mention DKE UNC).



FEATURED PROFILE

The Man Who Saved the DKE House Dave Phillips '65 Earns 1851 Award for Securing Funding After 1971 Fire

Picture it: In October 1971, a fire ripped through the Beta chapter house and destroyed it. The old section was completely gutted, and the new section was left without heat or electricity. To further the devastation, the insurance settlement ended up being just \$68,000 – a fifth of the cost of rebuilding.

Two years later, a rebuilt chapter house opened, but no financial institutions wanted to provide long-term financing for a fraternity house. Foreclosure even threatened.

Take a minute to imagine that. Picture what your memories would look like if the house had vanished in 1971, if your experience at UNC didn't include those iconic columns, or that staircase, or your DKE brothers.

When we asked Trey Adams about **Dave Phillips '65**, recipient of the 1851 Award, the first thing he said was, "Without him, we wouldn't have the chapter house today."

It's because of Dave, that we don't have to picture what might have been. But that comes a little later in the story. First, let's go back to the dire straits after the new house was built.

"We asked every prominent bank in North Carolina for loans, and were turned down every time, even though some had board members who were former Dekes," Dave remembers. "Out of desperation, we contacted Kenneth Ryall. He was president of the N.C. senate, and considered the most powerful person in the state. He was not a DKE but his son was. After many conversations with the local savings and loan in his hometown of Durham, they loaned us the money; however, they would only loan us so much."

The Savings and Loan Company reached their financial limit. The DKE House had cost more than the estimates, and they raised less money than they had hoped. The House even needed working capital to pay the water and electric bills, so Dave, along with Cameron Harris and Lyons Gray, personally guaranteed a loan of \$25,000 at First Union Bank in High Point. (Click here to read a *1976 DEKE Journal*



Dave Phillips '65 (right) with presenter Berny Gray '72

article that outlines the story).

It was a huge sacrifice, and it wasn't easy – the trio was not able to pay off the loan until November 1982 when the DKE Foundation stepped in to help. "Needless to say, there were many sleepless nights and much frustration over many years," Dave says.

Brothers are quick to weigh in on Dave's best qualities. **Tee Baur '68** remembers as him as a handsome guy who always had a good looking date, and reiterates that it was his efforts after the fire that distinguished him – "It was through his efforts that we got the house rebuilt," Tee says.

Brother **Berny Gray '72** sums him up succinctly: "Businessman, Ambassador, Family Man, Philanthropist." Dave is exactly that. He served as chairman and chief executive officer of Phillips Industries, Inc. and as a partner in Market Square Partnership. For more than 30 years he promoted American business by financing accounts receivables, by building showrooms for the International Furniture Market, and by manufacturing textiles. He then used his wealth of experience as U.S. Ambassador to Estonia from 2007-2009. He continues to offer his time and energy to educational, medical, and other causes as diverse as Duke University, Wake

DKE EVENTS

More than XXX Attend October Four Corners Celebration to Honor Successful Campaign

On October 7, more than XXX active and alumni Beta DKEs and friends gathered in Chapel Hill to celebrate The Four Corners Campaign and its position in securing our chapter's future at UNC. The generous donors who have supported the campaign to date were recognized, and **Dave Phillips '65** was presented with the 1851 Award for his lifelong dedication to the fraternity.

Thank you to all brothers who were present for this milestone occasion in our chapter's history.



FEATURED PROFILE (Continued from Page 1)

Parents' Weekend, Eddie Caldwell was one of the first people they saw.

"He came from behind the bar and we embraced," he recalls. "We called each other friend as though three decades had never intervened."

DKE Contributed to Lifelong Success

It was through some of his connections and relationships at UNC that Jeff went on to become a successful Wall Street investment banker. This is one of the reasons that the Buckalews felt it was important to honor Jeff in this way.

"He loved DKE and formed many lifetime friendships," said Dr. Buckalew. "I think the fine young men with whom he was associated at DKE were an inspiration to him, and in a real sense contributed to his success."

Preserving DKE for Future Generations

The Buckalews are happy to support current and future brothers to ensure they have the same great fraternity experience that their son had. The DKE house was a special place for Jeff and his father, and they want it to be around for many more generations.

"We are impressed that the programs to be implemented by the campaign funds will add new, positive dimensions to the chapter's life," he said. "We are sure Jeff would have been one of its big supporters were he still with us."

Andy echoes this sentiment and says that the DKE house holds a special place in many brothers' hearts.

"The support of this campaign is built on relationships," said Andy "Their DKE experience contributed significantly to their college experience, their success in life, and their wonderful network of friends."

Gifts such as the one from the Buckalews to the Eddie Caldwell Fund will ensure that the DKE house will be well taken care of in the future, and that increases in rent paid by actives will be kept to a minimum.

Those interested in making a gift to The Four Corners Campaign in memory or in honor of someone can contact campaign Co-chairs Scott Smith '80 (scottsmith@unc.edu) or Andy Spencer '80 (acspencer121457@gmail. com, 404-863-1162). Visit www.dkeunc. com/fourcorners for more campaign information.

DKEXCELLENCE: The Four Corners Campaign Thank You to Our Generous Donors!

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Parents & Other **Supporters**

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Support for 4 Corners Continues to Grow! See Inside for How We're Celebrating...

ALUMNI PROFILE

A Family Affair

Masons Support Four Corners Campaign in Honor of Family Legacy

25 words over

Mention the Beta House to any brother, and you are guaranteed a favorable reaction. After all, it was home during some of our most formative years, and the influences of alumni, fellow pledges, and even the house itself made Beta chapter grow from a fraternity into a family for us.

For two major donors to the DKExcellence: The Four Corners Campaign, **Bob Mason III '56** and his son **Robert Mason IV '81**, Beta DKE is even more of a family affair.

Both father and son pledged Beta DKE while they were at UNC. Bob's other son,

Bo, and grandson, Weldon Walker (who graduated this year) also are Beta DKEs.

"We owe it to the next generation, and we need to help them become even better."

Bob made a contribution to the campaign, and then later added to his initial contribution. He said the increase was to help advance the campaign toward its final goal of \$1.28 million since he felt that the three goals of the campaign were needed and worthwhile.

"We owe it to the next generation, and we need to help them become even better," he

said.

During his decades as Owner/CEO of R.E. Mason, an Emerson business partner, Bob has seen first-hand the benefit of DKE influence.

"I learned responsibility and other leadership essentials like teamwork and perseverance," he says of his time in the house. "I tell young people that you can be smart — really smart — but you've got to learn good judgment. You need common sense, or you may have a problem."

In 1996, Robert took over as owner/CEO of R.E. Mason, carrying on the success of his father and grandfather. Together, they prove

ALUMNI PROFILE

Academic Advisor Scott Smith Honored with Campaign Tribute Pledge Brothers Bond Together to Support Four Corners in Scott's Name

In 2012, **Scott Smith '80** joined the DKE House as Academic Advisor. He went above and beyond, helping to create the Academic Excellence Plan that significantly boosted the house's GPA (from 2.8 to 3.3 in 2017), to meeting regularly with undergrads to help them create their own action plans for success.

His six years of hard work and love for the chapter haven't gone unnoticed. Several of his pledge brothers, as well as brothers from the classes of 1979 and 1981, have joined together to thank and honor Scott for his devotion to the chapter. Together, they made gifts to the DKExcellence: Four Corners Campaign directed to the Academic Excellence Fund in Scott's name. The amount is enough to name a facet of the Academic Excellence Program after Scott, earmarking it for a possible scholarship for an academic chair to carry on the work that Scott has started.

Andy Spencer '80, Campaign Co-chair, has this to say about his pledge brother: "Scott's six years of hard work is a labor of love that has impacted many individuals in a very positive manner and it impacted the trajectory of our chapter so very much. We are proud to know him and call him 'brother'."

Thanks,



Scott Smith '80 is recognized at the Four Corners Campaign celebration.

Scott, for all you have done to help our active chapter excel!