

On Page 2...

Theta Rho welcomes new brothers in the bonds of brotherhood

On Page 3...

Alumni Association forms new website to foster relations in SoCal region

On Page 4...

Theta Rho to celebrate 76th year of its Chartering by International



The Theta Rho Quarterly

Volume II, Issue I

Theta Rho Forms Association for Southern California Region Dekes

The Theta Rho (UCLA) chapter of Delta Kappa Epsilon formed an alumni association this past quarter, citing a need for Deke alumni programs for the Southern California region.

The objectives of this association, formally known as the "Theta Rho Association of Delta Kappa Epsilon", will be to expand the fraternity experience and the traditions of DKE to all alumni in the Southern California region.

"Our brothers may join other organizations throughout their time in college but they will always be a Deke," stated Steven Ly, who will serve as the Association's Executive Director, "and our job is to offer programs and services that enhance the Deke experience."

The Association plans to roll out its full agenda starting in 2009 with the celebration of the chartering of Theta Rho on Friday, February 13.

Alumni can also expect to see monthly meet-ups and other special events as the Association begins expanding. All events will be open to alumni in the Southern California region.

The Association will also focus on helping develop and improve upon the Theta Rho chapter at UCLA in helping build their programs and events. Its concentration will be to provide assistance – time, energy and money – to help the fraternity grow at UCLA and potentially serve as an anchor to future colonies in the region.

The Theta Rho chapter at UCLA is currently the only active one for DKE in Southern California, having been refounded for the third time in 2005. In its short time and despite its



small size, the brothers have risen to prominence in various circles on campus. They have served as Chairman of the Board of the Associated Students of UCLA, Chairman of the On-Campus Housing Council (which oversees 10,000 students), served on the IFC cabinet and founders of various arts/entertainment and oratory societies on campus.

If you are interested in participating or donating to the Association, please contact Steven Ly at stevencly@gmail.com or call at (626) 320-5486.

President's Address: Theta Rho Kicks-off Year with Award, New Brothers



Brothers, I hope this finds you well. The Theta Rho chapter of Delta Kappa Epsilon has had an exciting summer and fall quarter. And as this fall quarter winds to a close, I think it important to keep you, our alumni, informed about the goings on here at UCLA.

This past summer, Brother Greene represented our chapter at Convention in Naples, Florida where we took home third place in Scholarship in the Lion's Trophy awards.

This Fall, after a good rush we successfully recruited and initiated the Iota Pledge class. Erik Peña, a first-year political science student and Travis Sepp, a second year NROTC cadet and a history student joined our Brotherhood. Both quality individuals will add much to our small but well-respected fraternity.

A couple weeks ago, Theta Rho went on our quarterly retreat. Brother Biering was gracious enough to

host us at his home in Frazier Mountain Park, a rural area near Ventura and Kern county. The retreat was successful in allowing all the brothers the opportunity to get away from the college scene and regroup.

This quarter we will be holding a two week rush with seven events to kick off the year. We want to recruit and initiate at least four new members. We are very enthusiastic and optimistic about the coming year and hope that DKE will continue to grow and remain strong on campus and around Los Angeles.

I welcome the participation of all Deke alumni to our events. If you are interested, please feel free to contact me at robhreynolds@gmail.com or call me at (650) 465-0701.

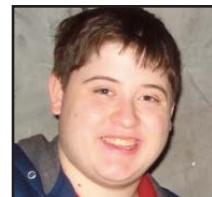
In the Bonds of DKE,

Robert Reynolds '10
President
DKE Theta Rho

Theta Rho Welcomes Brothers after Successful Autumn Quarter

Since the last Quarterly newsletter, Theta Rho has initiated three new brothers to our ranks. Like their brothers before, these new members have studied the history, legacy and traditions of our storied fraternity. We are also confident that our new brothers will add to our fraternity and will help continue our great legacy both at UCLA and for the International organization as well.

Gregory David Carini
 UCLA 2011
 Major: Mechanical Engineering
 Big Brother: Kevin Eric Fickert II '08



A few thoughts:

I can never forget my pledge process last spring. When I first met some of the brothers, I was impressed by the wide range of their interests, how involved they were on campus, and how they used their talents. After spending a little time with the actives, I decided to pledge. I looked forward to Monday and Thursday nights, when I would have the chance to get to know the actives. During my pledge education, I learned about the legacy of DKE, and the more I hung out with the actives, the more I wanted to join that legacy. Oddly enough, I find that some of my favorite memories of my pledge process are the ones where I embarrassed myself the most, such as making a music video and acting out a horrifyingly bad movie by the name of Cheerleader Massacre, and initiation night, of course.

Erik Humberto Pena
 UCLA 2012
 Major: Political Science, Spanish
 Big Brother: Scott Biering '11



A few thoughts:

When I came to UCLA and decided to pledge Deke, I was told I was going to have the most fun to never have again. And now that I look back at my entire experience, I have to say it was really awesome. At first, I want to say it was moving rather slow. However, when I got to go out to the fraternity events, such as watching "W" or "Quantum of Solace," I really got to get to know the brothers. By going to these events, I began to know what Deke was really about. There was rush but I didn't think that was enough; and it wasn't. In addition, the process of getting to know my big brother was a big part of my experience. It was good knowing there is someone out there. As for my pledge brother, I think the bonding time began on Initiation Week. I got to spend more time and most of all; we were forced to cooperate with each other. Initiation night was the climax of the experience. I was driven to the point where I could only rely on my knowledge and pledge brother. In the end, it was great knowing we both had passed and the fraternity was all in the same place at once. It was a great day; not ever have that fun again.

Continued on Page 3

Theta Rho Prepares for Winter Quarter, Recruitment in January

Theta Rho is preparing for Winter recruitment with two weeks worth of activities. Alumni are encouraged to participate. If you would like to sponsor or participate in any of the events, please contact the President, Robert Reynolds, at (650) 465-0701.

Monday, January 5
Steak and Cigars

Tuesday, January 6
BBQ and Ultimate Frisbee at Sunset Recreation

Wednesday, January 7
Poker Night

Thursday, January 8
"Make your own Pizza" Night

Friday, January 9
Santa Monica Field Trip

Saturday, January 10
Football / Basketball Game

Monday, January 12
Movie Night

Tuesday, January 13
BBQ at Sunset Recreation

Wednesday, January 14
Alumni Dinner

"Mount Dekemore"



New Website Initiative to Help Improve Networking Opportunity

The Theta Rho Association is proud to announce the start of its website, specifically designed to unite and communicate with all Brothers of DKE in the Southern California region. The website is being designed by Brothers James Pitts (Theta Rho '95), Vice Chairman of the Association's board, and Thomas Stanton (Theta Rho '08) the chapter's President-Emeritus. The team hopes to launch the website by early January.

The Association is planning on utilizing the internet to connect with lost Brothers who are in the Southern California region. Along with our quarterly newsletter, the new website is part of a full-media strategy to unite thousands of Dekes in the region.

"As our Fraternity approaches its 165th birthday, there is an even greater impetus to utilize new forms of communications to reach out," stated Brother Pitts. "As our Association begins its exciting first year, we wanted to share that to all the Dekes that are around."

The web development team plans to make the website interactive and responsive to visitors, actives and alumni alike. It will feature special events, upcoming dates and information about the on-goings of the active

Continued: New Brothers Chronical Traditions, Legacy Learned During Initiation Process at Theta Rho

Yuri Travis Sepp

UCLA 2011

Major: History

Big Brother: Keith Wong '08



A few thoughts:

When I first started the DKE Pledge Process, to say that I had no idea what to expect would be a bit of a stretch. I had visions (mostly inspired by low-budget movies) or walking through fire, or jumping on broken glass, or getting smacked with a paddle, or even of various actions involving farm animals and alcohol. I *nearly* had no idea what to expect.

I don't know the limits of secrecy in which the pledge process is contained, but I can safely say that DKE knowledge is not something to be scoffed at. The original founders, founding location, famous Dekes, customs and courtesies, chapter history, organization, alumni and active members, traditions, and more, all coupled with classes and my commitment to the Naval ROTC to handily liquefy my poor brain. My head hurt, but in the end, it was a *good* kind of hurt.

The Brothers were right. Initiation Week was the most fun I never want to have again. Even still, it was worth it, and I look forward to more years at UCLA Theta Rho. We're off to one hell of a start.

Theta Rho chapter.

If you would like to sign up, please visit the website at www.socaldke.org.

Alumni Spotlight: Ryan Smeets (Theta Rho '06)



Earlier in the year, Brother Greene conducted a one-on-one interview with Brother Ryan Smeets (Theta Rho '06). Brother Smeets served as President of the Theta Rho and also sat on the student government council when he was an undergraduate. He will be coming on as the Association's first Chairman of the Board.

Sum up college in a word.

Unpredictable.

Does it still apply?

Absolutely. College is like the real world. You come in with a plan, something you're interested. Fraternity was the last thing on my mind but it was the best activity I ended up getting involved with especially now that I am in consulting.

Has DKE helped you at all in your professional career?

It really did. Looking for jobs, I focused on consulting. I used the DKE network for firms. Brother Stu Press helped me with IT consulting. Having people in the business where you can bounce ideas, suggestions and advice with, that was huge.

What was it that you saw in the other fraternities that you wanted to do differently?

The original 8 had rushed and/or gone to the parties but wanted to do something in line with what we were. But as people come and graduate, the dynamic changes. If you look at how the chapter changes, it's been for the better. It's evolved. When you come back and reminisce on good memories, you don't generally think about your student government meetings; you think about the people, your friends and brothers.

Do you still keep in touch with your fellow alumni?

Yes I do. We do all kinds of stuff. Recently some of us went to root for UCLA at the Final Four NCAA game. We've all been involved in each other's weddings. That right there is more important than anything. That's what it means to be a brotherhood.

What do you think is the best way for alumni to stay involved?

The best way is to give money, because the chapter can't sustain without contributions. Attend all events hosted by International, the Association and the Chapter

Which of your brothers would make the best and worst President of the United States?

The worst would have to be Brother Justin Loeb, but his antics be the most fun to watch. My wife disagrees though. Brother Brian Neesby would make the best President hands-down. He has the "Look".

Any advice for the incoming pledges?

Say when.

Theta Rho Appreciates the Following Brothers for Investing in the Fraternity

Diamond Sponsor

Steven Ly ('07)

Gold Sponsor

James M. L. Pitts ('95)

Silver Sponsor

Jonathan Trent Cohen ('06)
Kevin Eric Fickert II ('08)

Bronze Sponsor

Drew Benton Scanlon ('08)
Thomas Michael Stanton ('08)
Remus Tomici (KE '03)

If you are interested in investing in Theta Rho, please contact Steven Ly at (626) 320-5486 or stevenly@gmail.com com.

Theta Rho Plans for Anniversary of Chartering by DKE on February 13

Theta Rho will be celebrating its 76th anniversary of its charter by International this February 13th.

The Association is currently planning a special event to celebrate the founding of the only active DKE chapter in the Southern California region.

The Association, keenly aware that February 13 is a day before Valentines day, is planning a "Guys Night" filled with activities all males would be proud of.

The celebration will be capped with a dinner where the Brothers' significant others may also attend.

Planning of activities for this event is still ongoing and brothers are encouraged to participate in its production.

If you are interested in helping plan the event or would like more information, please contact the Association's Executive Director, Steven Ly at: stevenly@gmail.com or (626) 320-5486.

The Association plans to make the celebration of February 13th an annual one for as long as the chapter is active

Brothers,

I want to be more involved!

_____ I would like to donate to the Chapter. Enclosed is a check (Please make it to: Delta Kappa Epsilon; c/o Rob Reynolds; 555 Levering Ave, Apt 215 Los Angeles, CA 90024)

_____ I would like to attend Chapter and Association events. Please add me to your email listserv. My email is:

_____ I would like to help develop the Alumni Association. Please contact me at:

(Please mail this back to: 555 Levering Ave, Apt 215 Los Angeles, CA 90024)



Theta Rho Quarterly
www.socaldke.org
555 Levering Ave. Apt 215
Los Angeles, CA 90024

