Winner of the Donald C. Wolfe Award for Outstanding Chapter Newsletter <u>EASURE</u>

Chapter of Kappa Delta Rho Fraternity | University of Illinois | www.kdrillinois.org | Spring 2018

### A Letter from the Alumni President



Brothers: In my last letter, I discussed the challenge that we and other Greek houses in Champaign are facing with the propertytax reassessment that took

place. You might recall that our taxes *doubled*, which places a significant financial burden on our organization. This issue is a major focus for the board right now. Here is an update.

Unfortunately, the tax appeal route was not a viable option, because a small group of Greek houses sold property in the current market and benefited from the higher property values. Thus, we could not show that the reassessed value was out of line and the appeal became a dead end.

On a positive note, the Greek Alumni Corporation Board Association (GACBA), through contacts in the Illinois legislature, was able to get some discussion going among lawmakers about the need to keep student housing affordable and how the large tax increases negatively impact this objective. One possible solution would be a law that eliminates property taxes for qualifying non-profit student organizations, including Greek housing. Indiana already has a law similar to this. The GACBA is working with the university to gain its support too. Having such a law would be huge for us and would help control the cost of student housing that a non-profit organization like ours provides.

Those alumni who are registered to vote in Illinois can help out with this effort by contacting their respective legislators and expressing the need to address this issue. Should this move to a point where a bill is presented and more organized assistance is

> Alumni President (continued on page 4)

# Visit our website: www.kdrillinois.org

# Alumni Spotlight: LAWRENCE JAGNOW '63

*Editor's Note:* For this edition of the newsletter, we're shining the spotlight on Larry Jagnow '63. From the hometown of Moline, Illinois, Larry graduated with a degree in journalism, and later joined the US Army in April 1966. Commissioned a second lieutenant, Signal Corps, in March 1967, he served a one-year tour in Vietnam, October 1967-'68, and retired from the Army in May 1969. A career in public relations and journalism kept Larry's creative side alive and well. An accomplished writer, Larry recently published his second Richard Silk detective mystery, The Unitarian Murder. He also stays busy in his community as a volunteer with Clinica Amistad, a free health-care clinic serving the underserved in the greater Tucson area. Larry and his wife, Anne, have been married for 55 years now, and they share two children, Lauren and William. In his free time, Larry enjoys spending time with his grandchildren, Veronica and Joshua. He also enjoys painting, working on his model railroad project, and playing golf.



Larry outside his home in Tucson, AZ.

# What was the chapter like when you joined?

When I pledged  $K\Delta P$  in the fall of 1961 as a junior transfer, Eta Chapter had a very successful pledge enrollment. If I remember correctly, our pledge class totaled 22 members. Pledges and actives were very enthusiastic, having a number of events, such as dances and social gatherings.  $K\Delta P$  also participated in every intramural sport. Back then, we also had an active-versus-pledge touchfootball game in late November, and upset of upsets, we pledges won the game.

# Why do you remain involved as an alumnus today?

I remain involved as an alum with the local Tucson Illini Alumni Club, because attending

the University of Illinois and being a member of  $K\Delta P$  helped me become who I am today. My education was great; the entire Illini experience was something I treasure and will never forget.

# After graduation, how did you apply your Journalism degree?

I applied my Journalism degree immediately out of college, joining a weekly newspaper chain in Grayslake, Illinois, as sports editor and page-one editor. From there, I went to a trade magazine in Madison, Wisconsin, as an associate editor. After joining the US Army and serving as an officer in Vietnam, I went into public relations for Western Electric Company. I dropped out of

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# **URGENT!**

We need Kappa Delta Rho alumni to contact their Illinois State Legislators today regarding the cost of student housing, including fraternity and sorority houses.

As you might know, property taxes for fraternity and sorority chapter houses have skyrocketed over the last several years. Assessments have gone up anywhere between 100 to 300 percent.

As a result, the Illinois Greek Alumni

Corporation Board has engaged Illinois legislators to consider modifications to the existing statute. We are pleased to share that several state legislators prepared a draft bill (HB 4914), proposing to eliminate property taxes for qualifying non-profit student organizations, including greek housing. This draft is a start to the conversation.

Not sure who your legislator is? Find them here: http://tiny.cc/ILreps.



# **Chapter News**



### Consul Brothers:

Tere at Eta, we pride **I** ourselves on service,

philanthropy, and brotherhood and furnish these through a creative and meaningful mentality.  $K\Delta P$  has members whose skills extend throughout campus, whether as vice president of the climbing club, president of EntreCorpe, RAs, or Illini Athletes.

Recruitment and initiation bring some of our favorite events to Eta. The gentlemen here find themselves surrounded by events such as movie night, game night, wing night, and broom ball. These events allow brothers to come together and swap stories of the days of old, as well as discuss future ways to improve the house.

We pride ourselves on our brotherhood and gentlemanly conduct, and we uphold our beliefs by rewarding those who hold themselves to the highest ideals of life and character; for those who do not uphold these beliefs, we, as a house, make it a mission to refine our fellow man into a true gentleman and scholar.

New recruits admire and prize  $K\Delta P$ 's natural and genuine brotherhood and the rewards that come with  $K\Delta P$ 's values and traditions.

As  $K\Delta P$  grows and evolves, we expect our current and future brothers to continue shining light on both the Greek community and their campus community through service, philanthropy, brotherhood, and, above all else, honor.

Fraternally. ali Sean Tobin



Sean Tobin and Matt Jacobson walking with the Champaign Police Department as a part of the "walk as one" program, a program that raises awareness of alcohol abuse and ways to prevent harmful drinking habits

#### Chapter Spotlight: OISES SED

Editor's Note: Representing the chapter in the spotlight is one of our newest brothers, Moises Sedano. From the hometown of Highland Park, Illinois, Moises is in his freshman year and is on track to graduate in 2021. He is pursuing a degree in consumer economics and finance and is service chair on the chapter executive board. Moises will work this summer at Greenohm for the second summer in a row. He enjoys basketball and discovering new music in his free time.

#### What led you to join the chapter?

Coming around the house during rush, I immediately felt welcomed by all the brothers. I took this into consideration as I searched for the right house, because brotherhood is very important to me. I joined  $K\Delta P$  for their strong brotherhood, and my expectations have been exceeded.

#### What have you enjoyed most as a new member?

As a new member, I have enjoyed the brothers in the house the most. I love coming to the house and seeing everyone. Spending time with the boys is always a good time! It's great having a whole house of friends whom I can consider my family away from my actual family,

#### How did you secure an internship at Greenohm?

I've been interning at Greenohm since the summer before my freshman year here at UIUC, and I got this opportunity through my cousin, who works at Greenohm



and is an alumnus of UIUC. At Greenohm, I work on business research and marketing, as well as rebates. For business research, I search for companies who could potentially become clients of ours. For marketing, I run our Twitter feed and post articles relating to the environment. I also work on editing our rebate database. I enjoy working at Greenohm and continuing to learn here!

#### Outside of school, what do you do for fun?

I play basketball, video games, listen to music, and enjoy catching up on my favorite TV shows. I've been a big fan of basketball since the seventh grade. My favorite video games to play are NBA 2K and Fortnite. I am always in the mood to listen to some good country music!



Brothers volunteering at the UIUC Polar Plunge, a community event that raises both money and awareness for people with special needs. Moises (second from left), the chapter Service Chair, helped with the event's volunteer arrangements.



The gentlemen of Eta scale the Smoky Mountains.



KΔP men participating at Kappa Delta's dodgeball philanthropy.





**Doug Jackson '78**: Six years ago, a group of late 1970s graduates planned a spring-training vacation. That first year in Florida was so much fun that the trip has become an annual event for some of us. We have travelled to both Florida (four times) and Arizona (twice) and have watched ball games at many of the stadiums. This year in Florida included myself, **Bob McCormick '79**, and **Bruce Mullins '79**. We attend games and hit a few beaches on the west and east coasts of Florida. Thinking about Arizona for next year!



Bruce Mullins '79 (left) and Bob McCormick '79 (right).

#### <>>> Chapter Eternal <>>>

Since the publication of our last Eta Survey, we have learned of the passing of the brothers listed below. Much of the list was provided by a recent database update. Our deepest sympathies to the family and friends of the following Eta brothers:

Franklin J. Vernon '34 Robert G. Wiese '35 Ralph F. Haag '38 Robert M. Mitchell '38 Arley M. Ball '39 Charles D. Bushee '39 Frank A. Cronican '39 Wilbur L. Dunn '39 Frank M. Muller '41 John R. Stanton '41 Warren D. Tuttle '41 Charles T. Curtis '42 Charles V. Stevens '42 Joseph B. McDevitt '43 Joseph P. Cicciarelli '44 Clarence L. Dunn '47

Thomas J. Brown '50 Chester J. Gawlik '50 Edward D. Rechel '50 Frank C. Fiala '56 Francis A. Mitchell '56 Richard D. Widen '56 Richard L G Krajec '66 Gary W. Petersen '86

# Leave A Legacy

Consider A LASTING GIFT that will support Kappa Delta Rho long after you are gone. By including Eta in your estate plans, you ensure the long-term health and success of our fraternity. Here's what you and/or your advisor might need to know; the most common ways to include Eta are through your will or life insurance. Sample language: I leave the sum of (\$xxxxxx.xx or xx% of my estate) to: Eta Building Association of Kappa Delta Rho, tax ID number 37-6048873, c/o the National Fraternity of Kappa Delta Rho, PO Box 777, Latrobe, PA 15650, for their general purposes.

PLEASE NOTE: This information is not presented as legal or tax advice. Always consult your advisors for questions you might have.

# **LAWRENCE JAGNOW** (continued from page 1)

full-time work for a year to write fiction but, not being successful with that, joined International Harvester in public relations. Later, I worked for Loyola University of Chicago, then Advocate Health Care, Chicago, and finally, Ancilla Systems, Hobart, Indiana. I completed my career as a senior vice president with that seven-hospital system. But always, writing was my strength and enabled me to advance in a variety of settings.

# Why did you transition into the health-care industry?

I transitioned into health-care because I always wanted to be in a job where I felt the job and organization I worked for was doing something positive for people.

# Which moments are you most proud of in your career?

The proudest moment in my career came toward the end of my working days, when I was named a senior vice president for Ancilla Systems. In addition to heading up public relations, I was named the system's compliance officer. I also oversaw four low-income, senior-housing projects, the quality-survey process, and development efforts.

# After retirement, what inspired you to take up writing again?

Retirement offered me the chance to really get back into creative writing. I had never really stopped writing, but work and helping to raise two children certainly limited the free time I needed for fiction.

#### Are you working on any new projects?

I have completed and published two mysteries, *Random Murders* and *The Unitarian Murder*, featuring detective Richard Silk. I am



Available on Amazon

novel," a journey from the placid shores of the Mississippi River to Chicago and on to the rather sour tasting Big Apple. Along the way, many Dickensian characters become speed bumps in

#### Wayne's tortured saga.

#### What advice can you give the alumni and young actives about making time for their true passions?

My advice is that we are on earth only once, and that once, in a cosmic sense, is limited. At the end of our days, it is better to look back knowing that you have at least tried to do what you loved than regret having never tried. And don't ever use the excuse of not having the time. Make time to pursue your dreams.



An avid model-railroad fan, Larry sits by his HO setup in a section of his garage. Larry also devotes time to writing fiction, golfing, and traveling. He and wife recently returned from a month in Australia and New Zealand.

tive Richard Silk. I am about to publish a third novel, *What Was He Drinking?*, which is my attempt at humor. It features Wayne Zing and his quest to write "the great American

# Check out our website: www.kdrillinois.org.



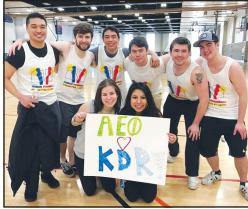
We hope to see you at the Eta Chapter house for the 2018 Homecoming tailgate! Be on the lookout for your postcard in the mail. Pictured below are brothers that gathered for Homecoming festivities last fall.





Brett Meyer, our risk manager, gives the chapter a PowerPoint about drinking: on ways to prevent harmful drinking habits and how to respond and on general ways to improve citizen safety.





KΔP men at AEΦ's human foosball philanthropy.

# **UPDATE YOUR E-MAIL**

We want you to be in the loop! Please confirm we have a good email for you. We periodically send updates, reminders, and good wishes at the holidays electronically. To check your information, go to www.kdrillinois.org and log in.



 $K\Delta P$ 's spring class (front row) and the rest of the chapter behind them.

# Alumni President (continued from page 1)

needed, we will send out a separate communication with information and guidance. We will need all the help we can get.

Thank you for your support, and I hope everyone has an enjoyable and safe summer with family and friends.

Fraternally,

President, Eta Building Association

P.S. As a resource to prepare in advance, a useful website to identify your representative and his/her contact information is tiny.cc/ILrep.

Men of KAP after a night of playing broomball. At the

end, we joined together and chanted KΔP!

