

Winner of the  
Donald C. Wolfe Award for  
Outstanding Chapter  
Newsletter

# ETA SURVEY

Eta Chapter of Kappa Delta Rho Fraternity | University of Illinois | [www.kdrillinois.org](http://www.kdrillinois.org) | Fall 2017

## A Letter from the Alumni President



Brothers:

Unlike the past several fall newsletters, I'm not here to share that things are all positive unfortunately.

Greek houses in Champaign are confronting a challenge. The county has re-assessed properties around the campus, which resulted in many fraternities and sororities seeing significant increases to their property taxes, us included. We are in the middle of the pack, having seen our taxes *double* this year. Several fraternities had increases more than this, with one house having an increase that exceeded 300 percent! This is driven mostly by all the new development going on in Campustown.

Our board is actively working with fellow house corporations on campus through an organized group called the Greek Alumni Corporation Board Association (GACBA) that meets in Chicago. In addition to having retained a firm to appeal our taxes, we are pursuing avenues at both the local and state levels to address this issue.

In the near term, though, the unfortunate result for us is that our break-even occupancy level in the house went up by about two men. That's significant and obviously impacts our financial situation. As we move toward refinancing the mortgage next year, things like this affect us more than we would like.

On a very positive note, I am pleased to share some well-deserved compliments to our undergraduate

**Alumni President**  
(continued on page 3)

We are proud to share that the Eta Survey took home the Donald C. Wolfe award for best newsletter again! Congrats all!



## Alumni Spotlight: Guy H. Allen '81

**Editor's Note:** For this edition of the newsletter, we're shining the spotlight on Brother Guy Allen '81. From the hometown of Delavan, Illinois, Guy grew up at his family's farm and developed an early interest in grain and livestock. As an active member, he served the chapter as *ponitrix* and *junior tribune*. After graduating with a degree in Agricultural Economics, Guy pursued a career in grain and feed. His work has led him to international business and a dual-citizenship between the US and Australia. Currently working in risk management and commodities with Advance Trading Inc., Guy has overseen a restructure and expansion of the company operations based out of Australia. Guy and his wife, Jun He, share two children: Mary Lurena (3 1/2 years old) and William Henry (16 months old). For fun, he enjoys farming, exploring history and family genealogy, ballroom and country/western dancing, and cruising on his Harley.



### What led you to you join the fraternity back in school?

I grew up in a small rural Illinois town and a high school of 200 students, 54 in my graduating class. At the time when preparing to enter university, the University of Illinois seemed like a very large and diverse institution. I wanted to live in organized housing with a group of people who had common interests and backgrounds. Going through spring rush, I found a group of people at KΔP with whom I had much in common and felt very comfortable.

### What are your favorite memories from your time as an active Eta member?

I enjoyed the diversity of people within KΔP and appreciated the structured social activities: attending university varsity sporting events (particularly football, ice hockey, volleyball, and wrestling), intramural sports, and social dances (disco was big back then, along with the "Urban Cowboy" craze).

The weekly running of the chapter GC Award was also a frequent and memorable event (probably wouldn't allow such an event these days).

### How has working with grain captivated your interest?

I enjoy the

commodity trade, because it is an international business/market/trade with a long history of well over 2,000 years that is based in the grassroots production of agriculture to supply the basic human needs of food and fiber.

### What was your first trip to Australia like?

I was first offered the opportunity to come to Australia in 1992 by Louis Dreyfus Commodities (LDC). I had been working in Kansas City at the time and basically accepted the opportunity when it was discussed on a Friday afternoon immediately, on the spot.

I had never been to Australia before, so it was setting out on a new life adventure.

Similarly in 2007, LDC again sought me out and offered me an opportunity to work in Beijing, China. Another significant opportunity for a life-changing experience.



### When did you decide to purchase land there and to become a citizen?

After being in Australia for nearly 15 years and looking long and hard, I finally purchased a small farm in 2007, Mittagong Station. It is a property with a long history on the Riverina of southern New South Wales.

In 2008, I became

**Guy Allen**

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# Chapter News

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## From the Consul

Brothers:

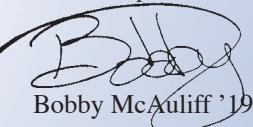
With fall induction recently complete, I am happy to report that the recruitment season ended well. We recruited a strong class of 22 young gentlemen, a class that we hope and believe will one day make up the officers of the executive board, occupy the fraternity house, and continue the legacy of this storied chapter. Our rush chairs, **Evan Gilbert** and **Brian Agins**, along with the bid committee, put in an extraordinary effort this semester, and that effort paid off.

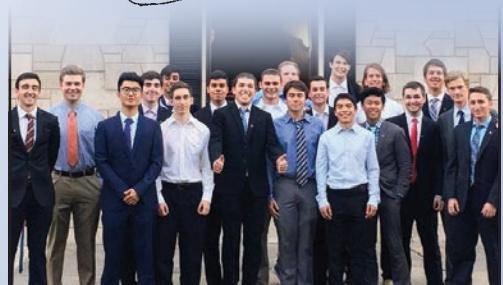
Although rush is over, the chapter will also be kept busy through the month of October by philanthropy. We're hosting our annual blood drive for Red Cross, organized by brothers **Vinzent Macalindong** and **Marcelo Champion**, and our famous Car Bash is this month as well. Last year's Car Bash was considered a huge success, and we're hoping to improve even more with this one, raising more money than ever before for the B+ (Be Positive) Foundation.

Although my time and the rest of the executive board's time in office is almost up, there is still much work to do. I'm proud of what the fraternity has accomplished so far in 2017, but we need to finish strong. We're going to work as hard as we can until the year is over to leave those who take our places in the best possible position.

This will likely be the last KDP publication I write in as chapter consul, so I would like to take this opportunity to publicly express gratitude to our alumni for their generous donations, to the alumni board for offering guidance and for keeping the operations of the house going, and to all of the current active members for supporting me and the executive board. This has been the single most formative experience of my life, and the lessons I've learned from it will follow me for as long as I live.

Honor Super Omnia,

  
Bobby McAuliff '19



Congrats and welcome to the fall 2017 pledge class.

## Chapter Spotlight:

### Tyler Rasmussen '17

**Editor's Note:** Representing the chapter is junior classman Tyler Rasmussen '17. From the hometown of Geneva, Illinois, Tyler is pursuing his degree in electrical engineering at UI. Currently serving on the chapter's scholarship committee, he is also part of the Engineering Outreach Society and Eta Kappa Nu (electrical and computer engineering honor society). Tyler recently completed an engineering internship at Northrop Grumman. He enjoys spending his free time weightlifting, golfing, and watching movies.



Tyler (far left) hiking with friends at Devil's Lake in Wisconsin.

#### Which events are you looking forward to this semester?

I am really looking forward to our yearly Car Bash philanthropy event that we put together to raise money for the Andrew McDonough B+ Foundation. It's always been a favorite event of mine, and it's for a great cause! I'm also looking forward to our Wing Night during rush, because I love chicken wings and meeting the new members of the house.

#### How would you like to apply your degree?

With my degree in electrical engineering, I am hoping to go into the power electronics



Tyler (far right) sailing on Lake Michigan with brothers Andrew Lee and Ayush Kumar.

field. This past summer, I worked with power electronics at a defense contractor, but there are countless other applications of power electronics, including working for a power company, the automotive industry, or really any company that deals with electrical systems. However, I am most interested in working for a big tech company such as Apple, Google, or Tesla.

#### What do you enjoy most as a KDP?

My favorite thing about being a KDP is that I get to meet so many great people whom I never would have met without the fraternity. I love how there is almost always something going on at the house, whether it's a random trip to get food or a rush event for over 100 people. Additionally, being a member of the brotherhood has motivated me to be a better person and lead a more balanced life.

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

When I'm not studying, I enjoy weightlifting at the ARC or the house, golfing, going to concerts, and being with friends. I also enjoy hiking, camping, and being outdoors.





## Congratulations to our 2017 Scholarship Winners!

Congrats to the Eta brothers who received scholarships at the KAP Foundation Scholarship Banquet.



### Tyler Rasmussen

'17: William J. Paris scholarship of \$1,000, Commerford Martin Engineering for \$700, John C. Carl for \$1,000, and Dale Schaffenacker for \$1,000.



**McHugh Carroll**  
'19: Mike McCarthy  
Architectural  
Scholarship for \$775.



**Jeremy Gumila** '19:  
Thomas P. Burns for  
\$1,000.



**Brian Agins** '19: Guy  
Davis for \$1,000.

**Quintin Potthast** '20 & **McHugh A. Carroll** '19: New member academic achievement scholarship.

## Chapter Eternal

We are saddened to learn  
of the passing of our Eta brother:

**Richard Krajec** '66

## Alumni President (continued from page 1)

chapter and their leadership. We needed a strong recruitment this fall; the chapter came together and recruited a very successful fall class of 22 men.

You might ask, *how can I help?* Support the annual fund. Here's why. The annual fund supports the alumni corporation's ability to invest in the property and complete special projects, as well as impacts the financial profile we present to the bank when we go to refinance. There are 800 of us as alumni. If we all just give \$50, \$100, \$250, \$500 or

**Don Russell** '70: We attended Ken Krynicki's ('74) wedding on Memorial Day weekend and connected with **Dave Rathgeb** '74 and **Fred Koziol** '73. Here is a photo of the beautiful bride and groom!



**Doug Jackson** '78: We had a good alumni event in St. Louis on July 9. From left to right in the photo below are **Ken Krynicki** '74, **Mike Goetze** '84, **Les Auxier** '80, **Doug Jackson** '78, **Dave Rathgeb** '74, **Larry Beanblossom** '73, **Dan Burns** '80, **Gary Beanblossom** '73, and **Carl Reed** '79.



**Krishan Thakkur** '14: I traveled to Munich and enjoyed Oktoberfest at its finest. I was joined by **Novi Singh** '15 and **Scott Anderson** '14. I then traveled to Kuala Lumpur in Malaysia and had a chance to stand in front of the Petronas Twin Towers, which you might recognize from the movie *Entrapment*.



At left: Krishan at Petronas Towers in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia; at right: Novi Singh, Krishan Thakkur, and Scott Anderson—live from Munich.

**Arjun Thakkar** '17: I finished a two-month Asia trip with a stop in Beijing. We traveled two hours outside of the city to get a spectacular experience, exploring parts of the Great Wall of China that were less crowded/commercialized than the portions of the wall closer to the city.



Arjun started his two-month journey through Asia with a stop in India at the Taj Mahal on his first day.



Fighting through 115-degree weather to see this wonder of the world was well worth the sweat!

## HAVE ALUMNI NEWS?

We want to hear from you! Send your personal updates, accomplishments, adventures, and photos to our account manager Kasey Breedlove at [kbreedlove@elevateims.com](mailto:kbreedlove@elevateims.com), or simply fill out the tear-away form at the bottom of your cover letter and return it in the mail. We want to share it in the next issue of *The Eta Survey!*

Fraternally,

Mike Kolberg '03  
President, Eta Building Association



## Guy Allen (continued from page 1)

an Australian citizen, holding dual citizenship with the USA. It seemed a bit odd to swear allegiance to the Queen again after our dispute with England back 1776.

### What are your thoughts on GMO products?

I have no problem with GMO crops and their related products. It is a great tool/technology that can advance food production well into the future, not unlike the advance in hybrid seed production in the early 1900s.

However, many people do not understand the underlying science, and I realize many people feel differently about the subject.

As such, GMO products should be appropriately labeled, giving consumers a choice and letting the market place determine the value and the outcome.

### How do you stay in touch with your KΔP brothers today?

The modern technologies of email and the internet have made the world a significantly smaller place. In the last four years, I have

found that Facebook is particularly a great tool for keeping in touch with family and friends from around the world. I have been happy to reconnect with so many of them. My three-year-old daughter speaks to her grandparents overseas on a weekly basis via a video chat.

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

Being a late starter, two young children now keep me very busy. Having a family at 55 is different than at 25. I also enjoy the farm, a garden, and an orchard, along with a variety of livestock around the farm: cattle, chickens, ducks, geese, and a dog.

I travel quite a bit with work, domestically and internationally; so, I enjoy the quieter moments with a book or a cigar or maybe a glass of red in front of a fire at the farm, Mittagong Station.



(I am currently reading *Merchant, Soldier, Sage* by David Priestland.)

### What advice can you give the alumni and young actives about willingness to relocate for their career?

I strongly believe that young people need to be exposed to the possibilities. When you are young, opportunity is more valuable than immediate financial reward. Too often, self-imposed boundaries are unintentionally set that will limit future opportunities. Be flexible! That includes professionally, socially, and geographically.

## Bill Paris '87 Named Head of Heritage Society

The Kappa Delta Rho Foundation board of trustees recently appointed **Bill Paris '87** to head the Heritage Society, which is the planned-giving recognition society for the foundation.

According to Bill, "I'm really pleased to help out in this role. Over many years, I've had the opportunity to meet with countless brothers from many chapters, all of whom had a terrific experience in KΔP. So many give back annually and genuinely appreciate their ability to help



support the programs funded by the foundation.

"For many of us, the foundation didn't even exist in our day. As an Eta, I had the good fortune to know and interact with **Al Borah '32**, who funded the creation of the foundation back in 1984. So many brothers look at planned giving as a way to give back more substantially from their estate once their needs are met, whether that's endowing or adding to an existing scholarship, or just adding to the program endowments."

## Leave A Legacy

**C**ONSIDER 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.*

### What year is it?



### We asked, and you responded!

**Guesses:** **Larry Katz '86:** I see our winning Homecoming float in the corner, and I think that was around 1985.

The actual year is 1985. The photo was shared by **Don Russell '70**: I am third from the right in the third row. **Gary Miller '72** is to my left in the photo (my wife Liz is behind Gary and to the left). Next is **Ernie Sammann '71**. Next might be Ernie's wife, then **Phil Troyk '74**. **Frank Czaja '73** is in the middle, bent to the left behind **Fred Koziol '73**. Frank's wife, Darlene, is the blonde woman front and center. Behind her to the right is a Martinek.