



THE SUNFLOWER

A PUBLICATION OF THE KANSAS CHAPTER OF DELTA UPSILON

FALL 2019

HELP THE KANSAS CHAPTER CELEBRATE 100 YEARS

A LOOK BACK ON DU'S PAST AT KU

As the Kansas Chapter prepares for its centennial this spring, it is a great time to reflect on how Delta Upsilon built us to be better men. We hope you'll mark your calendar for April 18, 2020, and join us for our centennial celebration. While counting down the days until the Kansas Chapter turns 100, let's look back on our decorated past.

Kanza Club Strikes Gold

KU professor Goldwin Goldsmith knew more than a thing or two about successfully building better men and better buildings. Through his DU experience at Columbia University and being the head of KU's Department of Architecture, Goldwin helped the Kanza Club strike gold with getting a charter from DU in 1920. The Kansas Chapter was installed in April of that year when 30 members of Kanza became our founding members.

Marching Forward through the Great Depression

The Kansas Chapter capped a strong first decade at KU in 1929 when its members moved into a new Chapter House at 1025 West Hills Parkway (now known as Emery Road). Even during the tough times of the Great Depression that soon followed, the Kansas Chapter found a way to prosper. In 1933, we welcomed 41 men from Pi Upsilon with the consent of the DU national fraternity.

All Quiet on the Kansas Chapter Front

World War II brought uncertainty for DU with a majority of members joining the military. The government seized control of our home to house the men of the Navy College training program, which forced the 12 remaining members to rent a house at 1409 Tennessee for one year. In 1942, brothers began meeting at the home of Lloyd Houston once a week. The Chapter House was finally returned to the DU Alumni Corporation in 1945.

Doing Things the Right Way at DU

It didn't take long after World War II for the Kansas Chapter to go back to its winning ways. The Chapter won several awards throughout the 1950s, including the Sweepstakes Award for the best DU chapter in the nation in 1954 and 1959. The Kansas Chapter's commitment to building better men was on full display with organizing blood drives, assisting others in the community after catastrophic

events, and helping underprivileged children. The good times rolled into the next two decades, as the Kansas Chapter won Sweepstakes Awards in 1964 and 1974.

Brothers Rally Together after Chapter House Fire

The bonds of the brothers from the late 1970s were strengthened following the Chapter House fire in January of 1978. There was extensive damage to the second and third floors but, most importantly, there were no injuries. Alumni, undergraduates, and parents rallied to raise funds to quickly remodel the Chapter House and add on to the dining room.

Building a Better Kansas Alpha

While there was physical damage from the fire, the values of the Kansas Chapter remained stronger than ever in the 1980s. Our inaugural flag football tournament to benefit underprivileged children was played in 1983, and the Kansas Chapter won another Sweepstakes Award in 1987. The 1990s were dedicated to building an even better version of DU at KU. The Kansas Chapter of Delta Upsilon Educational Foundation was launched in 1990 and the Chapter House renovation and expansion was completed in 1995.

Where We Are Today

As recently as 2011, the Kansas Chapter won yet another Sweepstakes Award. However, due to the actions of former brothers who didn't live up to DU's ideals of building better men, our undergraduates won't be living in the chapter house for the next couple of years. The Kansas Chapter aims to recolonize in 2022, and there is no doubt it will be a leading fraternity at KU sooner rather than later. We hope to see you on April 18 at the Adams Alumni Center to celebrate 100 years of building better men at KU.

SAVE THE DATE

2020 KANSAS DU DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI BANQUET



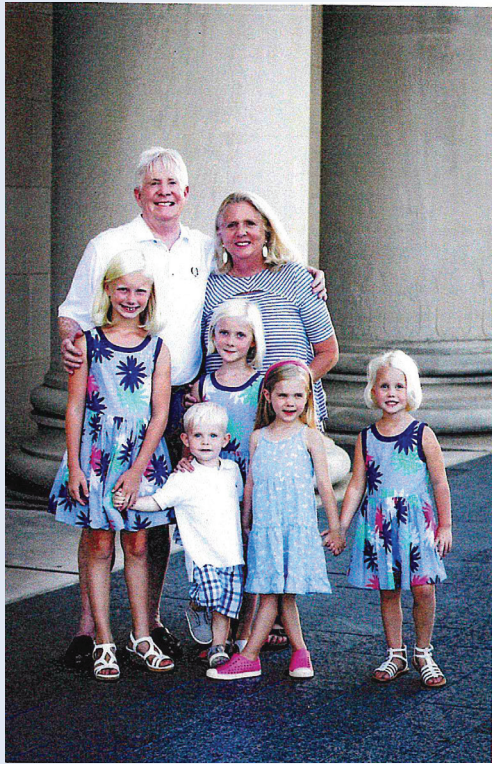
APRIL 18, 2020
COCKTAILS STARTING AT 5 P.M.

ADAMS ALUMNI CENTER
1266 OREAD AVE., LAWRENCE, KS 66045

Coat and tie attire; Stag affair

A FAMILY AWAY FROM HOME

*Distinguished Alumnus
Tom Hamill '64 Reflects on
the Impact of Delta Upsilon*



Attending a university with an enrollment larger than the population of your entire town can be a little overwhelming. And it was at times for **Tom Hamill '64**. But his home- away-from-home at the Kansas Chapter of Delta Upsilon made the transition pretty smooth. Being one of six children, the “big family” that DU offered made Tom feel right at home.

“It was a nice transition. Joining a fraternity of 55 to 65 guys, rather than living in a dorm with hundreds, allowed me to get acquainted with the other men on a more personal basis, and to quickly form some relationships which would last for a lifetime,” Tom said.

While he found great comfort in his DU family, it also challenged him to be a better man. “I was suddenly surrounded by other young men of high quality, who would serve as excellent role models,” Tom said. He was constantly inspired by the talented men in the Kansas Chapter, ranging from leaders and scholars to athletes. Being surrounded by some of the best provided a springboard for him to gain the confidence he needed to be successful in college and after. “The men in our house were unbelievably talented,” he said. “You felt that if you could make it there, you could be successful at almost anything. It was a big confidence boost.”

With this newfound confidence, Tom went on to earn a law school degree at the University of Kansas, and hopefully to make a meaningful difference in people’s lives. He moved from working for a small law firm to one of the biggest banks in Kansas City, and then to the U.S. attorney’s office, where he tried over 50 jury trials, and on to starting his own firm.

Today, after practicing law for over 50 years, Tom is Of Counsel with the Martin Pringle law firm, where he primarily represents small-business and their owners in transactional and litigation matters. His inspiration was his

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KANSAS DU ALUMNI
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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Alumni Engagement Comes in Many Forms *How Can You Help Delta Upsilon?*



Provide your email address to receive our digital updates. Send a message from your preferred email account to alehr@penningtonco.com. Updates can also be submitted at <http://kansasdu.com/update/>.

Volunteer as a board member. Contact **Rod Barleen '97** at rodbarleen@gmail.com to express interest and ask questions.

Attend alumni events. Our next one is April 18, 2020, to celebrate our centennial anniversary and annual banquet. Congratulations to the 2020 Distinguished Alumnus, **Tom Hamill '64**!

Host your own events and reunions, big or small. Submitting a photo to alehr@penningtonco.com could have it featured in a future newsletter.

Connect with others using the alumni directory stored at kansasdu.com.

Share your copy of *The Sunflower* with brothers, family, and friends.

father, who owned a small business in Colby, Kansas where Tom grew up.

For his success and dedication, the Kansas Chapter has named Tom the 2020 Distinguished Alumnus. He feels extremely honored to be recognized, stating, “This is very humbling. There are many outstanding men in this fraternity, men more talented than I.” Of all of the successes in his life, Tom is most proud of his family. “I have been blessed with a wonderful wife, three children, and five grandchildren. Family is the most important thing in my life,” he said.

“My career is just a reflection of a lot of hard work, opportunity, and luck. And a lot of that opportunity can be attributed to the experience I had as a member of the Kansas Chapter of Delta Upsilon”

You can reach Tom at tahamill@martinpringle.com.

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