



# The DUCK CALL

A Publication of Delta Upsilon at the University of Missouri • Spring 2021

## HOUSING CAMPAIGN COMES TO A CLOSE

*More Than 93% of Pledges Paid to Date*

**T**he capital campaign launched in 2013 to construct a state-of-the-art chapter house at 711 Tiger Avenue came to a successful close on December 31, 2020. As of today, we have collected roughly \$2.83 million of the \$3.055 million that was committed. That equates to 93%.

The next step in finalizing the campaign and transitioning to a new phase will be to prepare the permanent donor plaque and naming rights. We will then set a date for a donor recognition event at the chapter house. We hope to do that sometime next academic year assuming the COVID-19 environment is conducive to something of that nature. We will be sure to let you know of additional details as soon as they are available so you can get that on your calendar.

While the campaign has officially closed, we will still accept contributions up until the date we order the plaque and naming rights. We will keep you advised of the order date and certainly welcome and encourage you to make any final campaign donations by that date.

Once the donor recognition event is finalized, we will transition to a new annual fund approach. We have done this in the past, but it hasn't been communicated and organized in a manner necessary to ensure its maximum



effectiveness. As you know, annual fund campaigns are critical to the sustained success of organizations like ours. While donations for "bricks and mortar" are always needed, we hope to broaden annual fund contributions to accommodate for chapter programming, leadership, and academic needs. Our plan for the new annual fund is to ensure that most any donation made in the future qualifies as a tax-deductible gift.

As we celebrate this milestone and look to the future, we want to thank each of you for your generosity and support. I also want you to know that we will work diligently to ensure that the fraternity experience for Missouri DUs remains relevant and adds value over the

years. In future communications, I hope to share the results of some new research studies that suggest fraternity men outperform non-fraternity men in areas such as critical thinking, speaking, and writing, while also experiencing lower levels of depression and anxiety. That is in sharp contrast to the negative narratives often portrayed. There are certainly things to improve upon, but it is important to know that your financial support isn't only appreciated but warranted.

Fraternally,  
**E. Bruce McKinney '74**  
President, Missouri Alumni of Delta Upsilon  
(816) 260-5735  
ebmckin@gmail.com



*Chapter Advisor Chuck Hatley '80 with Randal J. Farmer Award winners Dylan Stover '23, John Gregory '23, Matt Austell '23, and Jackson Winkler '23. Dylan, John, Matt, and Jackson earned 4.0 GPAs during their first semester of college and earned \$500 scholarships.*

## Missouri Chapter Makes Big Strides

Undergraduate Brothers Excel in Academics and Leadership

**F**ollowing a strong fall recruitment, we were thrilled to initiate 48 new members in early December. This was one of the largest (if not the largest) new member classes in Missouri Chapter's history. We built on this momentum by bringing in 13 associate members this spring who are already making a positive impact within the chapter and on campus.

### Scholastic Success

Our commitment to academic excellence has been paying off, as we finished the fall semester with a 3.3 GPA. This placed us well above the university and fraternity averages and in the top five for Mizzou fraternities. The associate members did even better with a 3.4 average. We had nine members achieve a 4.0.

*(Continued on page 2)*



The 2021 Missouri Chapter executive board.



The fall 2020 new member class.

## Missouri Chapter Makes Big Strides

(Continued from page 1)

For more than 15 years, the Randal J. Farmer Award has been presented to the freshmen with the highest first semester GPA. Thanks to an effort led by many brothers closest to **Randal J. Farmer '79**, a \$10,000 endowment was created to provide a \$500 scholarship to each year's winners. This year, four new associate members received a 4.0 GPA. They were each awarded a plaque and \$500 check.

### A Love for Leadership

Advisory Board Chairman **Jeff Kreutz '99** organized a new officer retreat in Kansas City immediately following the end of the fall semester. I was a participant in the Delta Upsilon International Fraternity President's Academy, which was hosted in virtual format in early January. In February, the entire executive board and other interested members (16 or so in total) participated in DUIF's virtual Regional

Leadership Academy. This program is designed to help new officers understand their roles and expectations.

### Staying Active on Campus

We recently participated with Chi Omega in Greek Week. Due to COVID-19 guidelines, there were limited sporting activities. However, there was a blood drive and a restricted "Fling." Later this semester, we plan to have Mom's Weekend utilizing university-approved COVID-19 guidelines.

Fraternally,  
**Carson Bair '23**  
 Chapter President  
 cjbz7y@mail.missouri.edu

## WELCOME, SPRING NEW MEMBERS!

Read below to learn the hometown, high school alma mater, current major, and any special distinctions or hobbies of our newest initiates.

### Jack Barrett '24

*O'Fallon, Mo.*

Liberty High School  
 Business Finance  
 Magna Cum Laude  
 DECA and Delta Sigma Pi  
 Business Fraternity

### Braden Brown '23

*Morton, Ill.*

Morton Community High School  
 Secondary Education  
 Baseball, basketball, and football

### Riley Carron '24

*Weldon Springs, Mo.*

Christian Brothers  
 College High School  
 Business  
 Soccer

### Jack Floyd '24

*Cape Girardeau, Mo.*

Notre Dame Regional High School  
 Health Science  
 Basketball, baseball, and golf

### Maaz Haque '24

*Crystal Lake, Ill.*

Marian Central Catholic High School  
 Business Finance  
 High Honor Roll  
 Football, lacrosse, wrestling,  
 business club, STUCO (vice  
 president)

### Haden Hillis '24

*Dexter, Mo.*

Dexter High School  
 Accounting  
 Top 10% of graduating class and  
 National Honors Society  
 Football (team captain and  
 academic all-state honors), student  
 body president, STUCO, basket-  
 ball, baseball, and Fellowship of  
 Christian Athletes

### Cameron Johnson '24

*Frankfort, Ill.*

Lincoln-Way East High School  
 Accounting  
 Future Business Leaders of  
 America and football

### Sam Oesterlei '24

*St. Louis, Mo.*

Webster Groves High School  
 Business Finance  
 Soccer

### Tyler Rinas '24

*Lee's Summit, Mo.*

Rockhurst High School  
 Secondary Education  
 First and Second Honors  
 Wrestling (three years on varsity  
 and team captain)

### Adam Ryerson '24

*Arlington Heights, Ill.*

Prospect High School  
 Broadcast Journalism  
 Football, baseball, broadcasting at  
 MU (KCOU, MUTV, and KOMU)

### Kade Vidovic '24

*Frankfort, Ill.*

Lincoln-Way East High School  
 Business  
 National Honors Society  
 Future Business Leaders of  
 America and football

### Nick Walker '24

*O'Fallon, Mo.*

Christian Brothers  
 College High School  
 Mechanical Engineering  
 National Honors Society  
 Hockey manager

### Jon Yangas '24

*Glen Ellyn, Ill.*

Glenbard West High School  
 Psychology  
 STUCO (three years, including  
 vice president senior year), foot-  
 ball (two years on varsity and  
 academic all-conference honors),  
 gymnastics (two years on varsity),  
 rugby (two years on varsity),  
 Young Life, and now Mizzou  
 Rugby Club

## CHAPTER ETERNAL

**George H. "Bill" Gee Jr. '52** peacefully entered Chapter Eternal on November 3, 2020, with his loving wife of 67 years, Lee, by his side. George and Lee met at a bowling alley in Columbia while he was a student at Mizzou. College life went by quickly, but he formed lifelong bonds with his Delta Upsilon brothers. In one whirlwind week of June 1953, he graduated from MU, received his commission as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force, and married Lee. After his tour of duty in the USAF in Portland, Ore., they moved to Wichita, Kan., where his parents had moved while he was in college.

Bill worked at several businesses and ran his own trucking company, Arrow Transfer. The driving force of his life was his family. Bill mentored his young son in the YMCA's Indian Guides program. The YMCA program gave him a lifelong interest in the history and culture of Native Americans. He also loved going places, whether it was a trip to the farmer's market or a trip to Europe. Bill and Lee prepared delicious Sunday brunches for their children and grandchildren and, eventually, great-grandchildren, every week for many years.

**Dick Wendelburg '57** peacefully entered Chapter Eternal at his home on January 24, 2021. One of the highlights of Dick's undergraduate experience at MU was serving as DU's chapter president. After graduating, he joined Eli Lilly & Company in Indianapolis. He then moved to Eli Lilly's international division and began a career that would take him around the world. On his first assignment to Geneva, Switzerland, he met his future wife, Margaret Chaffey, who was visiting Europe from Australia. A short assignment to London was followed by Dick and Margaret's wedding in Australia, then a job transfer to Hong Kong, where they spent four years. From there, Dick's job took them Manila, Philippines, where their children were born, then Maracay, Venezuela, followed by five years in Mexico City, and then Indianapolis again, where Dick served as area director for Latin America and Canada. His final assignment was in Atlanta. Then, after 30 years at Eli Lilly, Dick took early retirement to follow his dream of becoming a financial planner. He joined HD Vest and Company as a representative and ran his own successful business until a few years ago when ill health forced him to retire.

**Dr. James C. "Clark" Flanary '64** entered Chapter Eternal at his home on July 2, 2020. Clark received a degree in nuclear physics with a minor in mathematics from Mizzou. He served in the United States Air Force during the Vietnam War and then attended the Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine in Kirksville, Mo., where he received his doctorate degree. Clark served his residency in Flint, Mich., and practiced in Farmington, Mo., before starting his Cassville, Mo., practice in 1985. After closing his practice in Cassville, he worked at the VA hospital in Fayetteville, Ark., until his retirement. He was also a distinguished patron of Cassville Golf Club. Clark is survived by his son, James, two sisters, and two grandchildren.

## ALUMNI UPDATE

Some DU brothers may remember Clark's love for the TV show, *Combat*, where he had his own machine gun made from a table leg, hand grenades from aerosol cans, and his regulation steel helmet. He always low-crawled into the TV room, ready to engage the enemy. "What a sight...I can still see it today," **Larry Kruse '65** shared. **Ernie Wasmer '68** added, "Clark was an interesting guy, great golfer, great friend, and the stories could fill a book. We lost a good one."

**Corey Bax '12** entered Chapter Eternal on June 25, 2020, at 30. His true love was baseball and he was passionate about the game as a player and a coach. Corey was most proud of his American Legion Post 5 team that won the state championship two years in a row. He loved St. Louis Cardinals baseball and Blues hockey. Most of all, Corey loved his Delta Upsilon brothers and the memories they made together.

**ALUMNI NEWS** – *Last fall, we asked our alumni four questions and here are some of their answers. We will run more fun answers we received in our next issue of The Duck Call.*

**Tom Ryther '61** has written a book about his 36-year journalistic career and "very not-so-normal life" since his graduation. The book covers his family's 400 years in America and much of the history surrounding that. It covers life during World War II and Tom's experience as a soldier in the Vietnam era. He also discusses politics, having interviewed major figures such as Presidents Kennedy and Nixon, top senators, and military members. And of course, he reminisces on his days as a Mizzou DU brother, leading their fraternity softball and basketball teams to success. The book, *The Hummelsheim Kid*, can be purchased at [studioz7.com](http://studioz7.com). Tom lives in Arden Hills, Minn. Email: [tryther@msn.com](mailto:tryther@msn.com)

**Gordon S. "Gar" Heddell '65** and his wife, Jana, reside in Lumberville, Pa. Email: [gheddell@me.com](mailto:gheddell@me.com)

**Alan B. McIlroy '70** retired in 2014 and lives in Arnold, Mo., with his wife, Penny. Email: [alan.penny.mcilroy@gmail.com](mailto:alan.penny.mcilroy@gmail.com)

**E. Bruce McKinney '74** retired in 2016 as vice president of finance and CFO of Community Blood Center of Greater Kansas City. He lives in Overland Park, Kan., with his wife, Teresa. Email: [ebmckin@aol.com](mailto:ebmckin@aol.com)

**John Twitty '75** and his wife, Kris, live in Springfield, Mo. Email: [johntwitty@gmail.com](mailto:johntwitty@gmail.com)

**Brian C. Geurin '78** resides in St. Louis. Email: [briangeurin@charter.net](mailto:briangeurin@charter.net)

**James D. Watts '80** and his wife, Karen, live in Dallas, Texas. Email: [jamesdwatts5@gmail.com](mailto:jamesdwatts5@gmail.com)

**James E. Lunders '91** and his wife, Maria, live in Johnston, Iowa. Email: [james@jameslunders.com](mailto:james@jameslunders.com)

**Keith Padgett '95** and his wife, Kristen, live in Belleville, Ill., where he is an American history teacher. Email: [kpadgett@bths201.org](mailto:kpadgett@bths201.org)

**Kevin M. Koehler '96** wonders if there is still senior bar/parking for football games. He lives in Belleville, Ill. Email: [kkoehl@gmail.com](mailto:kkoehl@gmail.com)

**Gregory L. Mathison Jr. '99** lives in Eureka, Mo., with his wife, Linda. Greg is an assistance superintendent for the Parkway School District. Email: [mathman80@prodigy.net](mailto:mathman80@prodigy.net)

## What words come to mind when you think about Delta Upsilon?

- Honor, integrity, and achievement. **Gordon S. "Gar" Heddell '65**
- Friendship, variety of backgrounds/interests, and activities. **Alan B. McIlroy '70**
- Friends, fun, and character. **John Twitty '75**
- Lifelong friends. **Alan Thomson '76**
- Football games, brotherhood, and character. **James D. Watts '80**
- Brotherhood, integrity, and social. **James E. Lunders '91**
- Fun, experience, and leadership. **Keith Padgett '95**
- Character, integrity, and fun. **Gregory L. Mathison Jr. '99**
- Fall, friends, and fleeting. **Daniel Zeller '03**

## What are your favorite memories from your time as an active member of Missouri Chapter?

- Lasting friendships, personal development, self-awareness, maturity, and understanding. **Gordon S. "Gar" Heddell '65**
- Always having friends to do things with (including studying, but mostly hanging out), and reminiscing and wanting to pass along to a new generation the opportunities we had. **Alan B. McIlroy '70**
- Football games and toga parties. **John Twitty '75**
- Parties and intramural sports. **James E. Lunders '91**
- The best times were the times I spent with my brothers. Today, we remain good friends. Probably the times I miss the most are the Saturday mornings sitting around replaying the events of Friday night! **Keith Padgett '95**
- The hard-partying zany times and quieter moments spent getting to know and connecting with brothers. **Daniel Zeller '03**

## What keeps you connected to Delta Upsilon as an alumnus?

- Mizzou football weekends. **James E. Lunders '91**
- While I don't keep up like I used to (I used to be very involved), I do like to at least know what is going on. Usually, I know an active member or two from my local area, so that helps. **Keith Padgett '95**
- Football Saturdays and *The Duck Call*. **Gregory L. Mathison Jr. '99**
- Emails and the periodical mailings. **Daniel Zeller '03**

# New Member Stats

## New Members: 13

- St. Louis Area: 4
- Kansas City/St. Joseph Area: 1
- Missouri (Other): 2
- Chicago Area: 6

## ACT Score of 30 or Higher: 3

**Average High School GPA: 3.63** (University Average: 3.50)

**Average ACT Score: 26.53** (University Average: 26.0)



# The DUCK CALL

Delta Upsilon, University of Missouri  
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Delta Upsilon Fraternity

# Chapter Officers

President

**Carson Bair '23**

cjbz7y@mail.missouri.edu

VP Administration

**Justin Bruno '23**

VP Finance

**Josh Kliethermes '23**

VP Recruitment

**Kyle Dismukes '23**

VP Academic Excellence

**Nate Rauschenbach '23**

VP Loss Prevention

**Connor Hurley '23**

VP Membership Development

**Jake Ahearn '23**

VP External Relations

**Matt Hill '23**

## Blast from the Past

### Letters from Wartime Brothers

In June of 2020, Delta Upsilon received a collection of letters from **Col. A. Bruce Colbert '53**, a veteran of the United States Marine Corps. Bruce received the letters from some of his brothers in the Missouri Chapter class of 1951, describing their military service during the Korean War; he rediscovered the collection while going through keepsakes after the recent passing of his wife, Jean.

“All were in service because the Korean War was going hot and heavy,” Bruce wrote to us. “They are fun to read.” The letters shown in this issue are just a fraction of what he sent.

The class of '51 offers a variety of fascinating perspectives as they write about their service, where they're stationed and what they're doing, and updates on the fraternity. While some express clear pride in their service, others express cynicism about the war or vent about the tedium of desk jobs and training. Those visiting or working back home discuss successful recruitment, chapter house updates, visiting brothers at other schools, and catching a Mizzou football game before they return to duty—some were even near Topeka, Kansas, during the Great Flood of 1951.

They celebrate family updates and newborn children, lament postponed weddings and events, and look forward to seeing each other again “if [they're] lucky enough.” One brother writes about his newfound appreciation for civilian life back in Columbia: “Men, there's nothing like it and I hope you don't have to find out the way we are.”

Although Bruce did not serve with these particular brothers (he was given the letters as the only other servicemember they knew from the chapter), he had a thrilling 30-year career in the Marine Corps; he even served as a helicopter pilot for Presidents Kennedy and Johnson.

Thank you, Col. Colbert, for your service and for sending us this unique look at our chapter's history.

The Red Hot Pilgrim  
Red Hot, Illinois  
March 11, 1951

Dear  
Brothers,  
I hope you are all well.

and

I hope a number of you will be able to read this letter. I understand that the post office is having a hard time getting letters out. I hope you will be able to read this letter. I hope you will be able to read this letter.

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