



# DELTS OF OL' ET

Epsilon Eta Chapter of Delta Tau Delta

Texas A&M University - Commerce

Summer 2013

## \$70,000 Renovation Project Announced

Your Opportunity to Give back to Epsilon Eta

### INSIDE:

p.2  
Around the  
chapter

p.3  
Rock's  
Words of  
Wisdom

p.4  
Message  
from House  
Corps

p.4  
Summit II  
Campaign

p.5  
Donation  
form

p.6  
Alumni News

A lot has change in the past 20 years, and with the A&M name change, the school has upgraded many of the facilities and the dorms on campus. The cinderblock, two twin bed, bathroom down the hall dorm room are quickly becoming a thing of the past. The shelter, despite the smaller renovations over the years, is looking very dated and has had many issues that keep people from either moving in or staying there longer. Alll the major Issues that will be resolved with this major renovation include replacing a leaking roof by eliminating the flat portion on the back of the house and new shingles, fire safety issues with solid core doors, integrated fire alarm smoke detectors, sprinkler system, kitchen cabinets appliances, electrical issues, insulation and weatherization, and most importantly, broken and uneven floor beams. We will also be installing bamboo hardwood floors throughout the entire house. This renovation project is going to make the Shelter very competitive with the new campus housing.

The time has come to give back to the organization that made your college life a great experience and laid the foundation for your current success in life. Make your legacy a reality by donating to the **Summit II renovation of the shelter**. Our goal is to raise \$70,000 to fund the renovations without having to paying a mortgage. Mike Reid, a Delt Alumnus, is having his custom home building company do all of the renovations. Today, we ask for your help to take advantage of this extrodinary opportunity, and complete the project as designed. We have come a long way, but we need your help to complete the project. Won't you help us continue the legacy that you helped create? Completing this project will allow us to remain debt free, and put our chapter in an exceptional financial position.

Fraternally,  
Richard Hansen '95  
House Corporation President  
gr8tek1@gmail.com

## Epsilon Eta Delt Honored With Distinguished Alumni Award

Each year, the alumni association, at Texas A&M University - Commerce, gathers to induct new members into its elite group. On April 19th, Epsilon Eta had the privilege of having yet another brother honored with the prestigious award of Distinguished Alumni. Dr. Cliff Wood, who graduated from then East Texas State in 1966, is currently the President of Rockland Community College, located in Suffern, New York, and works closely with the advancement of community colleges around the nation.

Through his sacrifice to the strengthening of the community around him, Dr. Wood has been honored by both Texas A&M University - Commerce and by the national fraternity, as well. Epsilon Eta Chapter is proud to call Dr. Cliff Wood a fellow Delt, and we congratulate him on all his many lifetime achievements.



'60s Brothers at the Award Presentation

## Visit Us Online At:

<http://tamucommerce.deltsconnect.org>

[www.facebook.com/commerceDelts](http://www.facebook.com/commerceDelts)

Keep up to date on all upcoming events, past newsletters, alumni updates, and much more!

# Committed to Lives of Excellence Top Priority at Epsilon Eta Chapter

## Chapter Increases Philanthropy Donations, Community Service Hours, and Intramural Wins

Epsilon Eta has made great strides this past year. This past October, we held our annual Delt Draft, which is a week long military themed event aimed at raising money for the Wounded Warrior Project. Each day provided its own military themed event. We sold t-shirts, solicited donations, and sold ads to local businesses, and through this, we were able to donate \$1,000.00 dollars.

In the spring, we participated in the University's Relay for Life hosted behind Whitley Hall. As a chapter, we sold balloons for release during the event, as well as, brisket sandwiches. The Chapter would like to personally thank brother Tony Aguilar for the work that he did helping us reach our goal. Collectively, we were able to raise over \$1,100.00 dollars, and were awarded the best food at the event and up-and-coming organization. For philanthropy, Delta Tau Delta ranks number one amongst all IFC fraternities.

Community service is another thing that we have taken seriously over the course of the past year. We worked together with the local Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation organizations (JDRF is our National Philanthropy), Student Veterans Association, and several other organizations, which helped us complete over 330 community service hours as a chapter. This ranks Delta Tau Delta at number 2 out of ALL Greek Life, second to only Kappa Delta Chi (Multicultural Sorority).

We have also experienced a lot of success this past spring within intramurals winning softball, sand volleyball (CRUSHING THREE DIFFERENT Pi Kappa Alpha squads), placed third in basketball, and doing very well in many smaller intramural events.

The last bit of news is our academics. Epsilon Eta has enacted a totally



*Undergraduate members at Relay for Life*

revamped academic program. Utilizing tutoring programs and study hour requirements Epsilon Eta has increased our GPA to 2.72 which currently ranks fourth out of eleven fraternities on campus.

It is truly an exciting time to be an Epsilon Eta Delt. We are looking forward to the fall semester with events such as Homecoming, fall recruitment, and the house dedication taking center stage. Without our alumni, none of what we do could have been accomplished. Thank you for your continued support, and I look forward to meeting you this fall.



Fraternally,  
**Josh VanAlstine '14**  
Chapter President

With the renovation of the shelter underway, join us this fall for 501 in September and Homecoming in October to see all the changes!

## 2012 - 2013 Chapter Officers

Chapter President  
**Josh VanAlstine '14**  
(315) 559 - 8039  
joshvanalstine@yahoo.com

Internal Vice President  
**Dalton Perry '16**  
daltonperry@gmail.com

External Vice President  
**Malik Green-Ellison '16**  
Newhooper12@gmail.com

Treasurer  
**Carlos Zaldivar '15**  
czaldivar20@sbcglobal.net

Secretary  
**Josh Morris '15**  
joshuabmorris1990@gmail.com

Director of Academic Affairs  
**Guadalupe Barbosa '14**  
guadalupebarbosa@gmail.com

Director of Risk Management  
Pledge Educator  
**Jimmy Shiver '14**  
james.l.shiver@gmail.com

Sergeant At Arms  
**Jacob Stahl '14**  
jacob.stahl.n7@gmail.com

## Know a Potential Delt?

As everyone knows, recruitment of new members is one of the obligations of being a Delt, and Epsilon Eta is no exception. We are always looking for new members to join our brotherhood, and we are looking to expand that with the use of alumni support. If you would like to see a potential new member become a brother, please send his name and any information about him to Chapter President Josh VanAlstine at (315) 559 - 8039 or joshvanalstine@yahoo.com

# Rock's Words of Wisdom

## You Were Always On My Mind

Brothers,

Last night I received a phone call saying that one of my pledge brothers, Jimmy Cooper, was very ill and had cancer. I have only seen Jimmy a few times since we graduated from East Texas State, but I have talked “about” him many times in Sociology classes in regards to viewpoints and perspective.

When I first saw Jimmy in the fall of 1961, he was wearing his High School letter jacket that was covered with all kinds of special decals that indicated he played multi sports and had lettered multiple times. Then finding out that he was valedictorian of his class was awe inspiring. Here was a great athlete that was brilliant. Viewing that letter jacket (I had lettered in football three times at Dallas Adamson) and knowing my academic endeavors and his academics, it was very impressive. Then he took me to his hometown (Roxton) and my viewpoint changed or my paradigm shifted.

Roxton was a small high school with less than 10 graduates in 1961 and was very different than a graduating class of 350 in the Oak cliff area of Dallas.

Jimmy has always been on my mind indirectly and hearing the news last night, he is in my thoughts even more. It has been 51 years since we took the Delt Oath together at ET.

The fraternity and the experience and friendship it offers is a very complex organization. The reality is that in any chapter there is a core group that really understands “it”, another group that has moments that they understand “it”, and an outer group that is just passing through.

Today you are being asked to support the enhancement of the shelter, to give money so that the opportunity to have a brotherhood (leadership development) is passed on to another group of students that are becoming who the will be.

I was in another city the other day, asking a graduate (a very successful business man) to give a financial gift (1 million plus) to the university to help students realize their educational dreams.

As we left his country club, he stopped on the porch and said “What would I have become without East Texas State College and the support it gave me”?

So I ask you the same question to you, “What would you be without the help of the university and the brotherhood of DTD”?

Dr. Cliff Wood in his speech accepting the Distinguished Alumni citation from the university, made references to his teachers and classes but noted that his leadership skills were developed in the DTD shelter.

Here is my check and I know that I will never have enough money to pay the debt of a life that has been good to my family and provide lifelong friendships.

I know when I go to my grave, some of the same guys I laughed, played sports with, went to class with, had arguments with, studied with, played poker with, double dated with, in G-1 with, someday will be carrying me home to chapter eternal.

Fraternally,

**Dr. Kenneth Clinton '65**

Former International Fraternity President

Kenneth.Clinton@tamuc.edu



**W**e are truly grateful for every contribution that we have received towards our Summit II Campaign.

These alumni recognize the importance of securing the future of Epsilon Eta chapter, and we would like to demonstrate a sense of gratitude for their personal experience. All donors have contributed outright, or over a three-month period, and will be recognized by level within each of our publications.

**Founder's Club  
(\$10,000 and Above)**

Your name here!

**Shelter Club  
(\$2,500 - \$9,999)**

*Rene' Griffin '75*  
*Rock Clinton '65*  
*Brian Weast '89*  
*EH Chapter '12*

**G-1 Club  
(\$1,000 - \$2,499)**

*Bill Thomas '66*  
*Mike Reid '73*  
*Don Wilks '83*  
*Mike Callahan '84*  
*Ken Pearson '86*  
*Rob Frazier '05*

**Wall Of Glory  
(\$750 - \$999)**

*Richard Hansen '95*  
*West Ballard '97*  
*Alfred Kuzov '02*  
*Trent Hamilton '03*  
*James Harvey '09*  
*Davit Hlitt '11*

**Brotherhood Club  
(\$250 - \$749)**

*John Wolfe '69*  
*Kirk Lohse '82*

summit II

**Campaign Status  
At-a-Glance**

**Founder's Club:**  
Great Room named in your honor

**Shelter Club:**  
Room named in your honor

**G-1 Club:**  
You receive a brick from the original Delt House

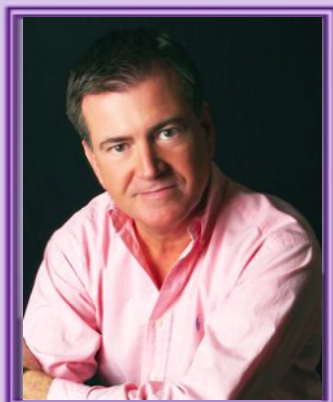
**Wall of Glory Club:**  
Receive a brick in the house named in your honor

**Brotherhood Club:**  
Name on a plaque in the Great Room.

**GIVE YOUR GIFT ONLINE**

To give your gift to the capital campaign electronically, go to [tamucommerce.deltsconnect.org](http://tamucommerce.deltsconnect.org) and then click on the alumni tab. Fill out the donation portion, and then click "DONATE", or you can simply download the PDF of the pledge form and mail it with your check.

**Dedicated Donor Rene' Griffin '75 Supports Epsilon Eta Campaign Efforts**



**A**fter spending a year away from his hometown of Commerce, and in search of an education close to home, Rene' Griffin decided to attend college at East Texas State University. Upon arriving on campus, Rene' was introduced to an unexpected Greek lifestyle that developed him into the social, vocal, and business-minded leader that he is today. "As a kid, I was

responsible for the usual stuff—mowing the yard, taking out the trash, running errands, etc. I was never really responsible 'for' other people. The fraternity changed all that." By being the social chairman, the rush chairman, and eventually the chapter president, Epsilon Eta provided Rene' with the opportunity to learn the necessary skills and techniques which allow him to run his successful business, The Texas Book Company.

As an undergraduate, some of Rene's favorite Delt moments were the mixers, parties, going undefeated for three consecutive years in volleyball, being thrown into the Driftwood Terrace pool after being elected president, and planning and executing Delt Relays. All of these are great memories that contribute to the man he is today, and remain the driving force for why he gives back to this day. "I would not be who I am without my experiences as a Delt. Digging deeper, I think back to a time shortly after I left. The Chapter got down to 8 guys, and Rock Clinton stepped in, and made sure that the Chapter survived. Nine other fraternities on campus shut down during that time due to similar circumstances that we were going through. The reason I give back is because there is no way I can sit back and let the work of Rock and those 8 guys disappear." Today, Rene' calls Heath, Tx his home, and runs his extremely successful business out of Greenville, Tx. He is excited about the future of Epsilon Eta, and especially excited about the capital campaign to fully renovate the Delt Shelter.  
Email: [renegrif@aol.com](mailto:renegrif@aol.com)

# DONATION/PLEDGE FORM MAY 4, 2013 SUMMIT II

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name email address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone number

I donate \$\_\_\_\_\_ today to Epsilon Eta Chapter of Delta Tau Delta for the Summit II campaign to raise money to renovate the Shelter.

I pledge to donate \$\_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ to Epsilon Eta Chapter of Delta Tau Delta for the Summit II campaign to raise money to renovate the Shelter.

\_\_\_\_\_ I will pay by check.

\_\_\_\_\_ Please bill Pay Pal Account with email address of \_\_\_\_\_

I pledge to donate \$\_\_\_\_\_ each month for \_\_\_\_\_ months for a total of

\$\_\_\_\_\_ to Epsilon Eta Chapter of Delta Tau Delta for the Summit II campaign to raise money to renovate the Shelter.

\_\_\_\_\_ I will pay by check.

\_\_\_\_\_ Please bill Pay Pal Account with email address of \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check payable to Epsilon Eta Educational Foundation

Please send form and all contributions to:

James Harvey, 1410 South Goliad Street, Apt. 2008, Rockwall, TX. 75087

## Upcoming Events

Informal Recruitment  
August 26th - 30th

Running of the Hill / 501  
September 6th: Events start at  
4:45PM

Delt Draft Philanthropy Week:  
October 7th - 11th

House Dedication and  
Homecoming  
November 1st - 2nd

Rite of Iris and Initiation  
November 2013



Office of Alumni Relations

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Commerce, TX 75429-3011  
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Commerce, Texas 75429  
Non-Profit Organization

## Alumni News

**Dennis Harris '65** currently serves on several advising boards. Dennis also works as the CEO of Pinnacle Solutions, a state of the art LED lighting company. He currently lives in Plano, TX with his wife Hazel.  
Email: doharris@sbcglobal.net

**Danny Ellison '70** is currently working for E&S Manufacturing in Longview, TX, and has recently hired current active Jacob Stahl '14 to work with him directly.  
Email: danny@esvalve.com

**Steve Palmer '73** is a managing partner of a 14 lawyer firm in North Dallas called Palmer & Manuel. Is currently married to his wife Linda, an East Texas Chi Omega, with whom he is expecting the arrival of his first grandchild next week. Congratulations brother!  
Email: donwilks@mac.com

**Brian Riddle '70** currently working on a transition with merging his community hospital with an operating partner. Brian proclaims that it is an interesting and challenging aspect to his life right now.  
Email: BRIANRIDDLE404@comcast.net

**Don Wilks '83** just finished a 14 month contract in Bangkok, spent 6 weeks traveling and scuba-diving, and is currently in Nepal for the Opening Ceremony for The Global Community for Education's 4th major project.  
Email: donwilks@mac.com

**Matt Shannon '95** is currently working with Ecolabs as an Art Director and Photographer in house located in the Dallas/Fort Worth area. Matt is married to his wife Heather who he shares two wonderful boys with.  
Email: matts@mac.com

**Tracy Coe '05** recently just finished his Master's in Business Administration at Texas A&M University - Commerce. He commissioned as an officer in the Air Force in August of 2012, and currently works for Texas Instruments  
Email: gross\_schatzi@yahoo.com

**Caleb Culver '09** recently just finished his Master's in Technology Management at Texas A&M University - Commerce. He is headed back home where he hopes to get a job in IT management.  
Email: culcal1@yahoo.com

## House Corporation

President  
**Rick Hansen '95**  
Forney, Texas  
gr8tek1@gmail.com

Treasurer  
**James Harvey '09**  
Rockwall, Texas  
jamesharvey987@hotmail.com

Summit II Chairman  
**Rene Griffin '75**  
Heath, Texas  
RENEGRIF@aol.com

Vice President  
**Randy Staten '08**  
Rockwall, Texas  
randy\_staten@yahoo.com

Chapter Advisor  
**Alfred Kuzov '02**  
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alfredkuzov@gmail.com

Member-At-Large  
**Mike Reid '73**  
Rockwall, Texas  
mreid51549@aol.com