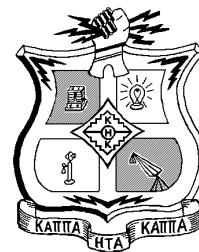


Kappa Eta Kappa



Homecoming 2026 Newsletter

Delta Alumni Association

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Homecoming Is Saturday, October 3rd, 2026

Homecoming this year is Saturday, October 3rd against Michigan State. As of the time of publishing this newsletter, kick-off time has not yet been announced. The UW-Madison College of Engineering is once again selling football tickets for \$80 each as part of their Alumni Tailgate event. For more information, please visit <https://go.wisc.edu/e3356x>.

Please join us at the Chapter House for the annual Delta Alumni Association (DAA) sponsored pre-game in-person porch party. We will have snacks, brats, burgers, potato salad and beverages before the game, and serving begins two hours prior to kick-off. We will have the game playing on TV and continue to have food available during the game for those who wish to stay and watch at the house. There is no charge for the porch party, and all KHK alumni and their guests are welcome to attend!

Future Meeting Schedule

Next DAA pre-NEC special meeting Saturday, Feb 6, 2027, Union South, Madison, WI

Next NEC ConventionSaturday, Feb 20, 2027 at Beta Chapter, Minneapolis, MN

Delta Exec Board meets each Monday at 7 pm at the Chapter House. All alumni are welcome to attend.

Delta Housing Corporation Update

The Delta Housing Corporation (DHC) collects rent from the chapter to cover annual house expenses (pest control, insurance, and property taxes) plus house maintenance and repair expenses. The DAA has a House Improvement Fund, which helps enable DHC to make capital or large maintenance improvements to the house. Your donations to the DAA House Improvement Fund help us continue our mission to provide affordable housing to members of KHK while making it a great place to live.

While our ongoing mission is to keep rent for members as low as possible, starting in fiscal year (FY) 2022-23 DHC has implemented yearly increases in rent charged to Delta Chapter in order to keep up with increasing taxes, insurance costs, ongoing upkeep, and to keep funds available for planned and unplanned maintenance expenses. Last year (FY 2025-26), the DHC rent was \$3600 per month.

Unfortunately, last year we were notified by our previous insurance that they would no longer offer liability policies for fraternities and sororities, and therefore DHC was forced to switch insurance to a new provider resulting in a significant increase in cost. As a result of this, the DHC has increased the rent to \$5,400 per month (a 50% increase) for the upcoming year (FY 2026-27). At \$5,400 per month, the cost we charge to the chapter is \$450 per room, or an increase of \$150 per room.

While this is a significant increase in cost to the chapter, we are still offering a competitive rate compared to nearby private housing options. In order to help offset the higher expenses, the DAA approved a donation of \$6,000 from the Donations to Delta Chapter fund to help cover some of the chapter's operating expenses (such as gas and electric utility bills and Internet service) while they work to find new ways to generate income and work on renting out more rooms of the house. We will continue to perform ongoing financial analysis to ensure that revenue keeps up with increasing costs.

The past years have seen many major improvement projects at the Delta chapter house. From 2018 through 2020, every room in the chapter house was renovated, accomplished in part from a large donation from the estate of Steve Paugh, and through generous donations from our alumni members of DAA.

In the summer of 2021, the front and rear porches of the chapter house were re-stained, and the back parking lot gravel was replaced, with volunteer alumni and active members contributing their time to accomplish these projects. In the summer of 2022, the hardwood floors in all of the common areas of the house were refinished by Sergenian's Floor Coverings. Last summer, the DHC worked with a local plumbing company to fix several issues and replaced the house water softener.



Photo of Delta Chapter actives, pledges, and alumni removing the house 'KHK' sign for much needed repairs.

In Spring 2026, our iconic front sign was taken down from the chapter house for a badly needed rebuild. This project was led by actives Alex Conover (D1509) and Matthew Ye (D1491) with the Spring 2026 pledge class assisting. Alex and Matthew designed and laser cut new letters for the sign, and alumni Sam Hurley (D1238) and Jerry Peplinski (D916) utilized DAA House Improvement Funds to purchase new marine grade plywood and treated 2x4's to build a new weather-resistant frame to mount them on. Painting and reassembly is in progress, and we anticipate hanging the freshly rebuilt sign this Fall.

This summer, the DAA and DHC is working on a major renovation to the chapter house kitchen space, including replacement of lower kitchen cabinets and countertops to match the upper cabinets and replacement of the full kitchen floor with commercial grade material. This project has been in the planning phase for a number of years while we collected alumni donations, and worked with cabinet, flooring, and plumbing contractors to get estimates for the work.



Photos of the Delta Chapter kitchen before (left) and after (middle, right) replacement of the floor, lower cabinets, and countertops. Work was performed over the past summer, with the help of alumni and actives.

The kitchen project was led by alumnus Jerry Peplinski (D916), with alumni Sam Hurley (D1238) and Joe Muehlenkamp (D893) helping to work with vendors and select cabinet and flooring materials. In addition to Jerry, Sam, and Joe, alumni Doug Carlson (D1089), John Krejcarek (D1104), and Sean Scannell (D1216) and actives Katie Leitz (D1526), Kevin Park (D1473), Matthew Ye (D1491), Praneet Popuri (D1489), and William Huhn (D1497) helped with prep work in the kitchen including paint prep, painting, and moving appliances in-between the demolition and re-installation phases of the project.

Lower cabinets, pantry cabinets, countertops, and backsplashes were supplied by Brunsell Lumber (cost of \$11,394). Demolition/installation are being performed by SCS Building & Remodeling (quoted cost of \$5,990). Flooring is supplied and installed by Sergenian's Floor Coverings (cost of \$6,340). Pending items include replacing kitchen plumbing, repainting walls and ceiling, and installation of new lights.

Please visit <https://daa.khk.org> for more photos of the project.

We depend on donations from alumni to help continue our mission to improve the chapter house. Last year we collected approximately \$9,300 in donations from our alumni towards the House Improvement Fund, and spent approximately \$4,400 (excluding kitchen project expenses), leaving a balance of approximately \$32,500 to pay for the kitchen renovation work.

The DHC maintains a list of major projects that may come up in the future including replacing all windows in the house, estimated at \$68,000 (depending on the quality of the windows) with the addition of permanently installed air conditioner units, estimated at an additional cost of \$20,000, and new furniture for the living room (cost unknown). Your donations to the House Improvement fund will help us perform this important work.



Close-up photo of new lower cabinets and countertops. The cabinets match the double-sided design of the previous, and match the design and color of the upper cabinets.



Photos of the kitchen sink area before (left) and after (right) replacement of the floor, lower cabinets, countertops, and backsplash. The metal sink basin was saved and cleaned up prior to reinstallation. New cabinets were also added above the two refrigerators for additional storage.

Chapter Update

New initiates were welcomed into the chapter in Spring of 2026, with a banquet held on April 26, 2026 at The Essen Haus, Madison, WI. The chapter welcomed Aishwarya Borse (D1531), Tyler Dalpe (D1532), Amelia Hein (D1533), Neel Kaushik (D1534), Shruti Kotha (D1535), Charlie Pecht (D1536), Raza Rashid (D1537), and Cecil Wendling (D1538) as new active members. We also bid farewell to our Spring 2026 departing seniors Tanner Birenbaum (D1437), Sean Chan (D1450), KJ Dhande (D1482), Parker Jorenby (D1402), Karan Kapur (D1462), Brendan O'Leary (D1456), Max Schwarz (D1476), and Sheridan Zimmerman (D1520). The Chapter currently has 51 active members. The Chapter is currently involved in rush activities for the Fall semester pledge class. The current pledge trainer is Ethan Race (D1490) and the chapter president is Kat Bauer (D1492).



Group photo of Delta Chapter active members taken after the initiation banquet on April 26, 2026.

The Delta Chapter Exceptional Member Award was established in 2024 to recognize active members of the chapter who have gone above and beyond their normal duties. The application includes written personal statement and several criteria including attendance, planning special events, and academic excellence were considered. The Spring 2026 award was presented to Rick Lamb (D1499), Katie Leitz (D1526) and Jasmy Mavilla (D1514). The award includes a framed certificate, \$150 cash award, and a special gift from the chapter president.

The National Executive Council (NEC) is in discussions with student organizations from The University of Chicago and the University of Michigan about chartering new chapters of KHK. Neither group has submitted a petition to join KHK yet. Please join the NEC e-mail list if you would like ongoing updates.

Each year, we ask Delta Alumni for donations to the active chapter, which are used to fund rush events and activities, as well as provide publicity materials. In 2025-26, alumni donated \$4,100 to the active chapter, and the DAA dispersed over \$6,600 in donations to cover chapter rush events and activities.

DAA Update

The DAA had our annual meeting at Union South on Saturday, August 29, 2026. In attendance were DAA President Jerry Peplinski (D916) and Treasurer Samuel Hurley (D1238), as well as DAA Director John Vaughan (D1143). Delta Chapter treasurer Kevin Park (D1473) and actives Raghav Jindal (D1483) and Matthew Ye (D1401) were also in attendance. Officer reports were given, the budget for the upcoming year was passed and goals were set for the next year. A copy of the fiscal year (FY) 2025-2026 financial summary is included with this mailing. Our 2025-26 FY ran from July 2, 2025 to July 7, 2026. Election of officers was the final order of business, and our officers are listed on the next page.

Membership Renewal Time!

It's time to renew your membership in the Delta Alumni Association! Dues are only \$25 per year, \$10 of which goes to National to provide delegate voting at the convention and support their financial needs. We had 141 members for 2026. Use the enclosed reply slip for your 2027 membership dues. Please return your dues by November 28th, 2026. We hope you will renew for 2027!

Visit us at daa.khk.org

In addition to the mail-in form, dues and donations can also be paid online with a credit card at our Delta Alumni Association website. Visit daa.khk.org, and click on the "Dues and Donations" link at the top of the page. You can then fill out a form with your dues payment and any donations you wish to make (please be generous). You do **not** need a PayPal account to pay online with a credit or debit card.

We thank you for your support of the Chapter and of the Delta Alumni Association. Don't forget to return your updated Membership Survey with your membership renewal, or update online at daa.khk.org

*Fraternally Yours,
the Delta Alumni Association*

OFFICERS

President	Vice-President	Treasurer	Secretary
Jerry Peplinski (D916)	Neha Talluri (D1429)	Samuel Hurley (D1238)	<Vacant>
jpeplin61@gmail.com	ntalluri2@wisc.edu	samuel.hurley@gmail.com	<Vacant>

DIRECTORS

Joe Muehlenkamp (D893)	Jack Rollins (D1447)	Sean Scannell (D1216)	John Vaughan (D1143)
joe.muehlenkamp@gmail.com	jprollins@wisc.edu	spscannell@gmail.com	jdkplv1@gmail.com

Mail Renewals and Donations to:

Delta Alumni Association of Kappa Eta Kappa
PO Box 45836 Madison, WI 53744-5836

2025-2026 SUMMARY FINANCIAL REPORT

BEGINNING BALANCE (7/2/2025)	\$	58,177.48
2022-2023 FY INCOME	\$	18,453.83
2022-2023 FY EXPENSES	\$	(18,242.73)
ENDING BALANCE (7/7/2026)	\$	58,388.58

DAA OPERATIONS BREAKDOWN		
DUES INCOME	\$	2,115.00
INTEREST INCOME	\$	787.83
MISC INCOME	\$	187.00
OFFICE EXPENSES	\$	(1,626.93)
NEWSLETTER EXPENSES	\$	(969.84)
HOMECOMING & SPRING SOCIAL EXPENSES	\$	(2,001.84)
MISC EXPENSES (BANKING, UMBRELLA INS.)	\$	(200.00)
PAYPAL FEES	\$	(200.78)
NET GAIN / (LOSS)	\$	(1,909.56)

DELTA DONATIONS FUND		
DONATION INCOME	\$	4,085.00
DONATION EXPENSES	\$	(6,644.31)
NET GAIN / (LOSS)	\$	(2,559.31)
HOUSE IMPROVEMENT FUND		
DONATION INCOME	\$	9,069.00
DONATION EXPENSES	\$	(4,389.03)
NET GAIN / (LOSS)	\$	4,679.97
NEC DUES AND DONATIONS		
NEC DUES RECEIVED	\$	1,400.00
NEC DONATIONS RECEIVED	\$	810.00
NEC DUES FORWARDED	\$	(1,400.00)
NEC DONATIONS FORWARDED	\$	(810.00)
NET GAIN / (LOSS)	\$	-

ACCOUNT BALANCES				
	BEGINNING BALANCE	ENDING BALANCE	Δ	
GENERAL (OPERATING) FUND	\$ 13,037.21	\$ 11,127.65	\$	(1,909.56)
DELTA DONATION FUND	\$ 17,303.01	\$ 14,743.70	\$	(2,559.31)
HOUSE IMPROVEMENT FUND	\$ 27,837.26	\$ 32,517.23	\$	4,679.97
OWED TO NEC (DUES&DONATIONS)	\$ -	\$ -	\$	-
TOTALS	\$ 58,177.48	\$ 58,388.58	\$	211.10

A word from the President and Active members of Delta Chapter of Kappa Eta Kappa

Katarina Bauer

President of Delta Chapter - Kappa Eta Kappa

Delta Chapter is starting the fall semester of 2026 with a total of 51 actives and a lot of momentum. We initiated eight new pledges and said goodbye to eight amazing seniors at our spring banquet. With all of them going on to do amazing things, we can't wait to see what they do next. I am excited to share our plans for the semester with our alumni!

Rush is already off to a strong start with Katie Leitz ('28) leading the charge. Classic events like bowling night and speed dating are making a return to rush, alongside new events including an industry talk with recent alumni and an ECS resume workshop. This semester's theme is Y2K, reflected in the merchandise, posters, fliers, and branding for rush this year. You can view all of these posters on our Instagram at @khkdelta! We have an incredible team working on all of these events, and are excited to welcome a large and talented pledge class this fall.

A big new development at the house is our new kitchen! The space was completely gutted over the summer with help from our actives, and thanks to Jerry Peplinski and a generous donation from the DAA, where we now have new floors, cabinets, and plumbing throughout. Additionally, we have eight members currently living in the house. Throughout the summer, members helped with room cleanouts, yard work, and other upgrades around the house. Our first chapter-hosted tailgate will be on Saturday, September 12th for the home game against Western Illinois. We will be hosting our annual Homecoming Tailgate on October 3rd, where all alumni are welcome. The active chapter is especially hoping to see familiar faces after a great turnout at the Alumni Social last spring!

A few other highlights we're looking forward to: we're hoping to grow our Charity 5k/10k race into an even bigger event. We raised \$500 dollars for charity this spring and are looking to top that this fall! As always, the winner gets to choose the recipient of the proceeds. If any alumni are interested in participating, donating, or sponsoring the race this fall, please keep your eyes open for communication coming later this fall! Additionally, we will be putting on industry talks, NEC Midyear, tailgates, the pledge project, among many other amazing events.

Keep an eye on the alumni email list as well as our social media for any and all updates concerning Delta Chapter! We truly value your support and always love hearing from you. Don't hesitate to reach out with any questions or just to say hi!

Thank you, as always, for everything you do for Delta Chapter!

Fraternally,

Katarina Bauer

khbauer@wisc.edu (734) 837-9289