Renovation Project Well Underway at 607 S. Michigan

New bathrooms and a new kitchen are just two of the many renovations being completed at 607 S. Michigan this summer.

The chapter house has been completely gutted and new drywall, interior and exterior doors, windows and drop ceilings are currently being installed. The first floor south bedroom is also being renovated.

The electrical system is being updated to meet code. This includes all lights, exits signs and smoke detectors. Additionally, a new 100-gallon hot water heater is to be installed along with a new laundry room in the basement. The stairs leading to the basement will also be replaced. A new fire suppression system is being added to protect the entire house.

Finally, a foundation drain is being installed on the west side of the house, new carpet is being installed throughout the house and the dining room ceiling is being repaired. Many construction pictures can be viewed on Facebook, check Zeta Kappa Ferris State or go to www.zetakappaalumni.com.

“There are a lot of exciting upgrades being made to the house and the chapter cannot wait to get back to campus and enjoy the house,” commented Marc Reisner ‘77, construction manager. “Please stop by if you are on campus, we’d be happy to show you around.” He continued, “In Summer 2015, the roof will be fitted with aluminum soffits, all siding will be replaced, new gutters will be installed and a new north porch will be added.”

Save the Date - October 3-4, 2014: Ferris State University Homecoming

Join other alumni, active brothers, friends and family the weekend of October 4 for Homecoming 2014!

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3
6:00 p.m.  Meet & Greet with the active brothers (607 S. Michigan)
8:00 p.m.  Homecoming Social (607 S. Michigan)

A block of rooms has been reserved at the Holiday Inn Big Rapids under Pi Kappa Alpha Alumni Association. The rooms are reserved until August 18, 2014. Book your room today by calling (231) 796-4400.

For more information or if you have questions, please contact Christopher Maisano ’02 at (248) 535-2468 or maisano.chris@gmail.com.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4
10:00 a.m.  Alumni Meeting (Chapter Room, 607 S. Michigan)
12:00 p.m.  Big Rapids Homecoming Parade
Brotherhood BBQ & Open House (607 S. Michigan)
5:00 p.m.  Homecoming Formal (Falcon Head Golf Course, 13120 Northland Drive, Big Rapids, Michigan). Alumni and spouses/significant others are invited to attend.
Ken Karsten ‘63 to Oversee House Renovations

The chapter house has been completely gutted and is currently being repaired. To ensure all work is done properly and on time, Ken Karsten ’63 has volunteered to oversee the project. Karsten served as president of the alumni board from 1965 to 1995 and oversaw the last big remodel in 1980.

“This is a huge project,” reported Karsten, “much bigger and complex than anyone expected. Within 24 hours of volunteering to oversee the project, I had to contact the construction manager, the building inspector and a contamination expert. It has been a bit hectic between zoning permits, plumbing problems, dumpster screening and kitchen issues. However, the house will be great once the project is done.”

Neil Bloomfield ’58 Remembers His Undergraduate Years

Brotherhood is for a lifetime. Brother Neil Bloomfield ’58 looks back on his years at Ferris State and the incredible impact the fraternity has had on his life.

“We were each seeking to set a goal for ourselves when we joined Pike,” explained Bloomfield. “Any of us could have just gone through college, but we wanted more - to be initiated into life - that’s why we pledged. A bunch of average guys who learn to pull together for the first time. Pi Kappa Alpha helped form the core of our human and cultural development.”

“Looking back, it was a fascinating four years. As brothers, we found a niche among ourselves, even through the traumas of our new independence and peer pressure. We channeled our energy and became brothers. Ultimately, we had the fortitude, foresight and self-worth to differentiate ourselves from the ordinary. The Greek culture has a way of producing the most confident, self-determined and socially adaptable people you will ever know. Having left the comfort of home and parents, the fraternity took us as young men and taught us to take responsibility for our own convictions and actions.”

Brother Bloomfield exemplifies the Pike spirit. He added, “the seven critical domains of: self-awareness, strategic thinking, communication, diversity, citizenship, membership and leadership and relationships are a part of all of us and who we are. That’s each of us, that’s who we are, and that is how we got here.”

Carpe Diem
Thoughts from Harry “Duke” Kraus ’60

Retrospection…it takes you back to remember the past…it also takes you back to look at yourself.

Education - I found college to be an ideal place to gain knowledge.

College prepared me for the world by showing me what I didn’t know and teaching me what I should know.

I found my fraternity to be a unique place to get an education.

My fraternity taught me that…what I thought I knew…I didn’t have a clue…

Examples - I thought I was a great thinker…then I met Dick Harris
I thought I was good at art…then I met Darrell Lomas
I thought I was good looking…then I met Lynn Larson

I thought I was a stylish dresser…then I met Ken Karsten
I thought I was good with women…then I met Bob Miller
I thought I was a really good guy…then I met Bruce Campbell
I thought I was an important part of the fraternity…then I met Dick Stewart
I thought I was the person the world revolved around…then I met the Delts

Brotherhood - Military brotherhood…if you’re a GI, and you meet another GI you have experienced things in common. Army basic training bonded me to a lot of soldiers. War, right or wrong, made soldiers a “band of brothers.”

Fraternal brotherhood…if you’re a Greek, and meet another Greek you have experienced things in common. The fraternity made me a brother…the old Hell Night, right or wrong, took brotherhood to a whole new level.

Carpe Diem - There is much to be said for Carpe Diem…and I Carpe Diemed the hell out of my years at the house. I Carpe Diemed from the TV room to the Bluffs...from Grunts to Grassers...from dates at Cozy Curve to someone’s limo in the back parking lot. I enjoyed the room with the fireplace, Gripes and Roses, the jug hut, winning a TV for the house mother (yes, we had one back in the 60s), meals at the “table”, the third floor dorm and Haiser making phone calls in his underwear…well, maybe not that last one so much…

Introspection - I look back at myself and have come to a rather disconcerting picture…I carried Carpe Diem as my standard and used brotherhood as a support. I did not give back as much as I could have or should have. If I had spent more time getting to really know the brothers…and doing more with them…I think the depth of my memories, in retrospect, would be far greater than those of Carpe Diem. I think Walt Armbruster did, I’m pretty sure Gary Cousino did, I know Ken Karsten did!

In the final analysis…all I can figure is… it was one great time…but I cheated myself.

To those fortunate enough to live in the house…all I can say is…Carpe Diem…but don’t cheat yourself.
Thanks to the 236 donors listed below, Pi Kappa Alpha at Ferris State University has pledged $525,068.58 for the Sustaining our Legacy & Securing our Future: The $550,000 Campaign for ΣΔA/PiKA at Ferris State. Donations to the Sustaining our Legacy & Securing our Future: The $550,000 Campaign for ΣΔA/PiKA at Ferris State today go towards renovating the chapter house located at 607 S. Michigan.

“There is no turning back now,” stated Gary Cousino ’69, national campaign co-chairman. “The house has been gutted and renovations have begun. If you haven’t made a donation yet because you didn’t know if the project would succeed, I encourage you to do so today. It is happening now and you don’t want to miss this opportunity to be involved and make a difference!”

“If you have already made a donation, please consider doubling your contribution,” continued Cousino. “Also, peruse the donor list below and see if a friend and/or close brother is listed. If not, please pick up the phone and make a call to solicit a donation. Brothers should not rely on someone else to pay their share. Every penny is needed to make this project a success. If you enjoyed your fraternity experience and used the house during your time at Ferris State, you owe it to yourself, and the 1,400 brothers who have walked in your shoes, to make the fraternity and chapter house strong for the next 20 years.”

Alumni are encouraged to support the Sustaining our Legacy & Securing our Future: The $550,000 Campaign for ΣΔA/PiKA at Ferris State today. All pledges may be paid monthly, quarterly, semi-annually or as a one-time gift. In order to make the payment process as easy as possible, you can set your pledge to be automatically drafted from your checking account or charged to a credit card on a recurring basis. Please make your pledge today by visiting www.zetakappaalumni.com and clicking “Support the Campaign.”

Sustaining our Legacy & Securing our Future: The $550,000 Campaign for ΣΔA/PiKA at Ferris State
Help us keep our alumni records up-to-date!
Edit your member profile online at www.zetakappaalumni.com, or clip this form, place it in a stamped envelope and send to:
Pi Kappa Alpha
Ferris State University (743)
PO Box 2187
Columbus, GA 31902.

Name ________________________________
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Visit the Zeta Kappa Website Today!
Visit www.zetakappaalumni.com, the official Zeta Kappa alumni website, to:
• Learn more about the chapter
• Search for alumni
• Update your address, phone number and email address
• Find out about upcoming events
• Post noteworthy accomplishments (a new baby, a recent marriage, a recent promotion, etc.)
• Support the Sustaining our Legacy & Securing our Future campaign

CHAPTER ETERNAL
Michael Caplia ’69, May 2014
Lynn Larson ’60, April 10, 2014
Mathias Brejcha ’66, April 3, 2014
Donald H Robbins ’02, February 11, 2013
Phillip Steinhauser ’79, December 28, 2012
Frank A Schaefer ’87, August 18, 2012
Bruce Campbell ’66, August 15, 2012
Robert Shattuck ’80, April 15, 2011
Robert Brown Jr ’47, January 22, 2010

Nick Moore ’07
Mark Thomas Moran ’84
James Ohanesian ’90
Carl Pardon ’59
Bruce N. Parsons ’56
Ed Peters in Memory of Phil Steinhauser
Anthony Pomo ’09
Lansing W. Pritchard ’72
Matt James Radde ’98
Donald H Robbins, III ’02
James Ellsworth Sage ’66
William Alvin Sage ’88
Charles H. Schneirer ’74
Robert Raymond Schnetzler ’80
Scott D. Schuette ’85
Daniel Paul Sheridan ’79
Rodney Joseph Simonsen ’77
Donald C. Slachta ’54
Robert F. Slominski ’52
Raymond E. Sluyter ’63
Mark A. Stanfield ’69
Richard D. Stanton ’56
Paul Stapleton ’07
Gary Wayne Stevenson ’66

Vaughn Edward Stewart ’71
Christopher Storey
Thomas Dorman Tacker ’81
Harry Jay Thurków ’66
Andrew Charles Tibbits ’86
Daniel Robert Tibbits ’64
James Patrick Vikdel ’05
Casey Wade ’94
D aden Paul Wagner ’02
Andrew White ’10
Thomas Robert White ’02
John Widera ’60
Carter Hunter Wilkerson ’66

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Donald O. Allen ’62
Robert Bellomo ’65
Jack Leroy Brugger ’67
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Charles J. Fontana ’81
Eugene A. Hockmeyer ’61
Harold Elliot Holcomb ’68
Walter Scott Johnson ’66
Mark Stephen Kevnick ’81
Michael James Knoll ’90
Mitchell Gwinn Malone ’69
Dana Edwin McCrum ’79
William Keith Moore ’83
James Douglas Orling ’69
Jack Pearson ’61
Ronald R. Perkins ’58
Richard Neil Reddy ’66
Andrew Rex ’03
Brian Salowitz
Gary Shoudy ’64
Anthony Sinaeve’ 83
William M. Slattery ’50
David J. Smith ’70
Dennis Michael Trester ’69
Kyle Michael Turner ’11
Thomas Michael Vranich ’71
Thomas John Walder ’78
Jason Watson
Tod Greg Wolfgram ’95

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