Forward—

The terms and expressions described in this study have been used within the Delta Chi chapter of Delta Kappa Epsilon at Cornell University at various times in the recent and distant past. Most are in general use at the time of writing. The chapter has also published a glossary of secret terms and expressions known only to initiated members of the Fraternity.¹

The CMM citation indicates that the term or expression was explicitly used in a passage taken from The Delta Chi Chapter Meeting Minutes for the date given. CMM Volumes I-VII (Jan 1870-Mar 1981) will be found in the ΔKE Depository (Collection 37-4-1535), Division of Rare and Manuscript Collections, Cornell University Libraries, Ithaca NY. In most cases, the relevant text is reproduced in the Chapter Chronology document.

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**Academic Advisor** — A member of the University faculty or a graduate level student, the latter often living in the House as a boarder, who was responsible for tendering advice to brothers and pledges regarding their studies and academic obligations.² CMM, 9 Dec 1947.

**Alpha** — See Registrar. CMM, 15 Nov 1884.

**Alpha Angle** — The alignment of the ΔKE badge (pin) upon the wearer to coincide with a straight line extending from the left shoulder to the right hip. The vertical axis of the badge, whether worn on the shirt over the heart or on the vest over the lower right pocket, should be parallel with the aforementioned line. CMM, 4 Oct 1896.

**Alumni Memorial Windows** — The two stained glass windows attributed to Frederick Stymetz Lamb situated on the main staircase that are dedicated to those brothers who died before the present Deke House was erected in 1893-4. CMM, 17 Dec 1907, 11 Jan 1908 and 9 Dec 1929.

**Alumni Suite** — The chamber (with bath) located on the second floor of the 1910 addition to the Deke House that was reserved for the accommodation of visiting alumni. CMM, 30 Oct 1910.

**Anticoedism** — The policy enforced by the chapter up until the beginning of World War II that “no freshman may be seen with a coed or town girl under pain of such punishment as the upper class thinks fit.”³ CMM, 17 Oct 1920 and 8 May 1921.

**Archway** — Informal term identifying the ground level carriage portal penetrating the 1910 addition to the House. CMM, 1 Nov 1914.

**Attic Abortions** — A myth circa 1960-69 to the effect that sub-rosa abortions were performed in the attic of the lodge.
Back Bar – The basement-level earthen floored room beneath the 1906 south veranda.
Bell – See Flick Report.
Beta – The president of the chapter. That brother elected “to preside at all meetings of the Society, to call extraordinary meetings whenever he or one-third of the members of the chapter may deem it expedient, and to make all appointments not expressly delegated to the whole chapter. He shall decide on all questions connected with the Constitution, and his decision shall be final, unless reversed on appeal by the Council whose decision on appeal may be taken to Convention.” CMM, 26 Jan 1872. See Pater Primus.
Big Six – The six leading fraternities at Cornell University consisting of the original five member Star League plus Chi Psi (1869). CMM, 3 Apr 1921.
Black Ball – A demerit either assigned by the Pledgemaster to a pledge in consequence of some serious failure concerning the latter's performance in the pledge program, or arising automatically in the event that a pledge with three outstanding and unexpired Red Balls is awarded a fourth, these four Red Balls thus “convert” to a single Black Ball. Black Balls, once assigned, are not subject to recall during pledging. CMM, 7 May 1957, 26 Feb 1958, 28 Apr 1960 and 15 Mar 1964.

Caculty Focktail – Play on the words Faculty Cocktail attributed to Brother Brian Merrick O’Connor ‘70. See Faculty Tea.
Card Room – Archaic. The first floor reception room incorporating the west facade tower structure. CMM, 19 Mar 1911 and 17 Apr 1925. See Grasselli Room.
Chapter Roll – 1. The list of chapters of Delta Kappa Epsilon and their associated academic institutions. 2. A command given by a brother to a pledge to rapidly recite the list from memory, often during the interval that a wooden safety match (held by the fingers) burns down. CMM, 5 Dec 1915.
Clinton House – Building, formerly a hotel, situated at 116 North Cayuga Street, Ithaca NY. Site of the Delta Chi chapter Inaugural Dinner held on 11 February 1870. “The Clinton House was named for DeWitt Clinton, governor of New York from 1817-1822 and again from 1824-1827. The original building was five stories high including attic and basement, and was topped by a circular cupola which rose 90 feet above street level. Construction costs were between $25,000 and $30,000. The Clinton House was built in partnership by Jeremiah Beebe, Henry Ackley and Henry Hibbard. These men also built Clinton Hall next door, which was built as a commercial enterprise to serve the hotel patrons and was purposely setback from the street to avoid competing visually with the Clinton House. It was designed in the Greek Revival style and built between 1828-29, possibly by local architect Ira Tillotson. An ambitious project for its time, heralded in 1832 by one regional newspaper, the Casket, as "a hotel of superior order and of the first class...equaled by few and surpassed by none in the State." The building contained over 150 rooms, including "offices, bathing rooms and spacious halls". The lobby staircase was originally circular and contained 81 steps. The front
columns are each composed of a single oak tree, surrounded by layers of brick, with a stucco outer coating. In 1872 Ithaca's most prominent architect, William H Miller, renovated the structure into the then more fashionable Second Empire style, adding two new floors. These additions were made directly above the cornice level of the original building and were contained within a mansard roof. The original round cupola was replaced by a square tower. The exterior was painted lead gray with charcoal trim. After a fire in 1901 which destroyed the upper two stories, the Clinton House was rebuilt in a design by Clinton L. Vivian, using Colonial Revival details such as the Palladian window in the pediment and balustrade on the roof. The existing lobby was created at this time. A new brick addition, thirty-nine by forty-eight feet, was attached to the rear wall of the south wing. In 1949, the entire first floor of the 1902 wing was remodeled into the Mural Lounge. Architectural design of the lounge was done by two Cornell architecture professors, Thomas H. Canfield and Frederick M. Wells. The mural was painted by J. O. Mahoney also from Cornell University. 

**Closet Case** – A derogatory term, often applied to a rushee and occasionally to a brother, describing an individual whose appearance and social manners are repellent.

**Coffee Bush** – A bush adjacent to the 1906 south veranda where brothers tossed the dregs from their coffee cups after the evening meal circa 1960-75.

**Count 'em** – A term used to emphasize a number stated in a Flick Report, e.g., "The curtain opens at eight count 'em eight o'clock."

**Crisp Command Voice** – Catch phrase in a routine associated with Brother Donald Alford Weadon, Jr. '67.

**Critic** – That brother assigned to judge and assess the quality of the Literary Exercise.

**Curator** – Archaic. That brother elected to direct all affairs concerning the physical upkeep and maintenance of the chapter lodge. The **House Manager**. From Curator, -oris, m., L., one who takes care, guardian, over-looker. The office of Curator or House Manager has, at times, been assumed by the chapter's vice-president. **CMM**, 12 Feb 1887.

**Custos** – Archaic. That brother elected "to collect all fines and dues, to make all disbursements, and to render an account of the same whenever required by the chapter." The Custos is addressed as Brother **Kappa** in chapter meetings and in Fraternity correspondence. The Custos is now regarded as the chapter's treasurer. From Custos, -odis, c., L., a guardian, watchman, keeper, preserver, attendant. **CMM**, 15 Mar 1872.

**Date Night** – Any evening when brothers were permitted or expected to bring female guests to dinner at the House. Dinner that evening would be more sumptuous than usual and brothers would present themselves in suits.


**Deke House** – The 1893 lodge of the Delta Chi chapter of Delta Kappa Epsilon presently located at 13 South Avenue, Ithaca NY. The lodge of any chapter of Delta Kappa Epsilon. See **AKE Hall**.

**Deke Lion** – A 1943 wartime news digest published
quarterly by Brother Robert Franklin “Scoop” McCann, Jr. ‘42. No specimens survive.

**Delta** – The chapter’s steward.  

**Delta Alpha Society** – A freshmen eating club disbanded in 1873. Several ΔKE members of that era were formerly members of this society. *CMM*, 24 Oct 1873.

**Delta Chi Association** – The Delta Chi chapter alumni organization incorporated on 9 March 1888.

**Delta Chi Deke** – The chapter newsletter founded by Brother Homer Hartman Bishop ’36 in 1935.

**Delta Chi Yell** – No information. *CMM*, 17 Apr 1910, 16 Mar 1913.

**Delta Kappa Epsilon Fraternity at Cornell University** – The undergraduate organization incorporated on 5 November 1883.

**Ding** – v. To vote against a candidate for fraternity membership; to blackball; to veto. n. A vetoing or blackballing, as of a candidate for fraternity membership. Since circa 1930.

**Director of Ceremonies** – See **Director of Initiation**.

**Director of Initiation** – Archaic. That brother elected “to act as master of ceremonies at initiations and ex officio chairman of all pledging committees. He shall have general power and authority as to the introduction of initiates into the Fraternity.” The Director of Initiation is addressed as Brother Pi in chapter meetings and in Fraternity correspondence. The title has been superseded by that of **Pledgemaster** in recent years.


**Dweeb** – 1. A derogatory term, often applied to a rushee, describing an individual wanting in sophistication or social savvy. 2. “Slang. An unpleasant, tiresome person: bore. Slang: drip, jerk, nerd, pill, poop.”

**Epsilon** – See **Poet**.

**Eta** – See **Orator**.

**Faculty Tea** – A formal cocktail party held at the Deke House in the spring season principally to entertain the faculty of the University. No tea has ever been served at this function. See **Calculty Focktail**. *CMM*, 24 Mar 1923, 15 Apr 1923, 15 Nov 1925 and 10 Mar 1930.

**Far Far** – The Ithaca Theater, 413 West State Street, Ithaca NY. Circa 1966-70. See **Flick Report**.

**Far Near** – The Temple Theater, 114-116 West Seneca, Ithaca NY. Circa 1966-70. This theater was demolished; a Tompkins County Trust Company office now occupies the site. See **Flick Report**.

**Fire Protection Committee** – A standing committee charged with maintaining the House's fire alarm and fire extinguishing equipment. *CMM*, 7 Dec 1907.

**Flick** – A motion picture.

**Flick Report** – A scheduled oral report given by a selected pledge to the brotherhood during the dessert course of the evening meal. The report, delivered from memory, details the following for each motion picture playing that evening in the local Ithaca theaters: (1) the name of the theater using House terminology, e.g. the **Near Near**, the **Near Far**, etc., (2) the name of the main attraction playing, (3) the names of the principal stars, (4) the curtain time, and (5) the pledge's assessment of the movie in “bells.” A motion picture rated “one bell” is of inferior
quality, rated “two bells” is passable, rated “three bells” is very good, and rated “four bells” is outstanding. The entire brotherhood is obliged to attend any movie rated “four bells” on the evening that flick report is presented. CMM, 28 Apr 1960, Mar 1962. See Count ’em.

Frater in Facultate – L. A brother in the faculty of the University.

Frater in Urbe – L. An alumnus who resides in Ithaca or the immediate environs.

Geek – An individual, generally inept, and particularly incompetent in the arts of attracting and entertaining young ladies. An oddball.

George Harmon Coxe, III ’53 Memorial Plaque – A memorial plaque awarded to the brother who is “most active in publications.” CMM, 11 Feb 52 and 14 Apr 52.

Grasselli Room – The formal name for the first floor reception room dedicated as a memorial to Brother Caesar Augustin Grasselli, II ’22 in 1979.10

Grounds Committee – A standing committee with responsibility for the maintenance and upkeep of the House grounds and gardens.

Guide – A brother charged with the responsibility of keeping the chapter room clean and in good order. Guides also perform the “sergeant at arms” role of enforcing order at the direction of the presiding officer during chapter meetings. Four freshmen were usually appointed to serve as Guides in the early twentieth century. In recent times, there are two guides, Brothers Mu and Nu. CMM, 22 Feb 1870, 13 Apr 1959, 30 Nov 1967.

Hidden Stairway – The abandoned spiral stairway fragment originally in the lodge's east turret that was built over in consequence of the 1910 addition to the House.

Historic Triad – Alpha Delta Phi (Hamilton, 1832), Psi Upsilon (Union, 1833) and Delta Kappa Epsilon (Yale, 1844). ∆KE was born as a Junior society out of a “schism” of Psi Upsilon's Beta chapter at Yale.11 From Psi Upsilon's perspective, ∆KE was formed by those “who in a moment of pique eloped, so to speak, and founded an independent family.”12 This accounts for the similarity in the lozenge (rhomboid) shape and form of the badges worn by these two fraternities.

Hook – The House telephone. A call to summon a brother to the telephone to answer an incoming call.

Hot Ticket – A promising or desirable rushee. CMM, 17 Dec 1873.

House Manager – See Curator. CMM, 14 Apr 1912.

Houseman's Closet – The first floor storage room abutting the portal in the 1910 addition to the House.

In the Bonds – The traditional closing to a letter from one brother to another.

Iota – The chapter's corresponding secretary. See Scriptor.

Ithaca Hotel – AKA Ithaca House A three-story wood building at 215 East State Street (SW corner of Aurora and State) built by Luther Gere in 1809 where the first meetings of the chapter were held (Jan 1870 to May 1871). This structure burned to the ground on 28 August 1871 and was replaced with a four-story brick building in 1872 that survived until 1967.
when it was torn down for urban renewal. The S. F. Iszard Company department store now
stands on this site.\textsuperscript{13}

\textbf{Kappa} – The chapter’s treasurer. See \textit{Custos}. \textit{CMM}, 15 Nov 1884.

\textbf{Kappa Beta Phi} – A drinking society closely associated with the Cornell Deke House circa
1910-62. The Greek letters are a transposition of Phi Beta Kappa, the academic honor soci-
ety.\textsuperscript{14}

\textbf{Lambda} – The chapter's Librarian.\textsuperscript{15}

\textbf{Last Call} – A five piece Deke House band performing circa 1989.\textsuperscript{16}

\textbf{Leave We the Dead, My Son} – Translation of Line #8, Book XIX, of Homer's \textit{Iliad}.\textsuperscript{17}

\textbf{Leonard Moteè} – (pronounced: mo-TAY) A characterization introduced by Brother Donald
Alford Weadon ’67.

\textbf{Librarian} – That brother elected to administer the House library. \textit{CMM}, 21 May 1882.

\textbf{Liquor Closet} – The storage closet built into the south wall of the first floor reception room.
Once used as the House Smoke Shop. \textit{CMM}, 4 Oct 1925.

\textbf{Literary Exercise} – Archaic. An obligatory oral performance of a brother occurring during a
chapter meeting and taking the form of a debate, a formal literary reading of an original
essay, or a discourse upon some subject.

\textbf{Mama Said} AKA \textit{Moma Said} and \textit{Mamma Said}. A rhythm-and-blues song recorded by the
Shirelles in 1961.\textsuperscript{18} The chorus was sung by pledges during Saturday work duty circa 1967:

Mama said, “There'll be days like this.”
“There'll be days like this,” My mama said.
(mama said, mama said).
Mama said, “There'll be days like this.”
”There'll be days like this,” My mama said.

\textbf{Mannuni} – See Ralph C. Mannuni.

\textbf{Milk Punch} – A traditional House beverage formulated from milk, ice cream and whiskey that
is served in the Deke House on the Sunday morning of a party weekend.\textsuperscript{19}

\textbf{Morrison Block} – Dry goods store at 202 (formerly 62) East State Street (on the NE corner of
Tioga and State Streets) that was owned by Mr. James T. Morrison. Two third-story rooms
therein were leased to the brotherhood from 1 September 1873 until 1879 for use as the
second Delta Chi Chapter meeting hall.\textsuperscript{20}

\textbf{Movie Money} – Money given by the brotherhood to a member of the chapter as an inducement
for him to be absent from the House during a rushing smoker or social event.

\textbf{Mu} – The senior advisor to the Beta. \textit{CMM} 11 Jan 1954. See Nu and \textit{Guide}.

\textbf{Mystic Seven} – A secret society founded at Wesleyan University in 1837.\textsuperscript{21} The Syracuse
University chapter was dissolved and reconstituted as the Phi Gamma Chapter of Delta
Kappa Epsilon with the support of the Delta Chi Chapter at the 25th \textit{ΔKE} Convention (25-26

\textbf{Name Plates} – Brass plaques mounted to study room doors with the nickname, last name and
class year of the brother engraved thereon. *CMM*, 14 May 1911, 14 Nov 1926.

**National** — The central organization of the fraternity: the Council of Delta Kappa Epsilon International Fraternity, or the office of the Executive Director of Delta Kappa Epsilon.

**Near Near** — The former Strand Theater, 310 East State Street, Ithaca NY. Circa 1966-70. See Flick Report.

**Near Far** — The State Theater, 109 West State Street, Ithaca NY. Circa 1966-70. See Flick Report.

**North Until the Roads Give Out** — A phrase associated with a road trip into Canada taken by Brothers Franklin Thomas Pinter ’71 and Thomas Joseph Pniewski ’71 circa 1970.


**Not To Seem, But To Be** — Motto of the Delta Chi Chapter of Delta Kappa Epsilon taken from line 592 in the Greek tragedy, *Seven Against Thebes* by Aeschylus. (Αἰσχυλος, Greek, 525-456 BC).

**Nu** — The junior advisor to the Beta. *CMM*, 11 Jan 1954. See Mu and Guide.

**Objects** — “The Objects of Delta Kappa Epsilon are the cultivation of general literature and social culture, the advancement and encouragement of intellectual excellence, the promotion of honorable friendship and useful citizenship, the development of a spirit of tolerance and respect for the rights and views of others, the maintenance of gentlemanly dignity, self-respect and morality in all circumstances, and the union of stout hearts to secure to merit its due reward.”

**Old Deke House** — The two-story building situated at 111 Ozmun Place that was occupied by the Delta Chi chapter of Delta Kappa Epsilon and used as the chapter lodge from 1877 to 1892. This structure was subsequently used by Phi Sigma Kappa circa 1894-1903.

**Orator** — Archaic. That brother elected to compose a single oration at the next chapter meeting convened for the purpose of electing chapter officers. The Orator is addressed as Brother *Eta* in chapter meetings and in Fraternity correspondence.

**Pater Primus** — Archaic. The term was superseded by that of *Beta* when the system of Greek letter appellations was adopted in 1883. *CMM*, 26 Jan 1872.

**Pater Secundus** — Archaic. That brother elected to serve as the vice-president of the chapter. Also, the keeper of the chapter seal. The term was superseded by that of *Sigma* when the system of Greek letter appellations was adopted in 1883. See Curator.

**Phone Duty** — The customary assignment of a pledge to spend a scheduled evening in the House for the purpose of answering the telephone and summoning brothers to receive incoming calls. *CMM*, 26 Feb 1958.

**Pi** — The chapter’s Pledgemaster and Master of Ceremonies. See Director of Initiation.

**Pig Book** — The Cornell University Freshman Register, a book containing the individual
photographs of each matriculant in the Freshman Class. See Rushing Slips.

**Pimp & Prostitute Party** – A joint ΔKE-SDT (Sigma Delta Tau) social affair circa 1980.\(^{25}\)

**Place Pin** – The ΔKE badge of Brother Dorrace Meyers Place '97 that was returned to the chapter in 1936 and subsequently lost.\(^{26}\) *CMM*, 21 Sep 1967 and 19 Oct 1967.

**Pledgemaster** – See **Director of Initiation**.

**Pledge Play** – A skit performed by the pledge class before formal initiation. *CMM*, 26 Feb 1958.

**Pledge Table** – That dining table located by the eastern wall of the refectory that is reserved for the pledges. *CMM*, 26 Feb 1958.

**Poet** – That brother elected to compose a single poem at the next chapter meeting convened for the purpose of electing chapter officers. The Poet is addressed as Brother **Epsilon** in chapter meetings and in Fraternity correspondence.

**Pop** – A beer.

**Pope Cat** – The Chaplain. The brother who says Grace at supper.


**Quill and Dagger** – A Cornell secret honor society founded in 1893.\(^{27}\)

**Rabbit** – A House social function, especially a cocktail party. Talk, as from the Cockney “rabbit-and-pork” rhyming slang.\(^{28}\) *CMM*, 13 Mar 1910, 16 Oct 1910, 26 Mar 1911, 19 Nov 1911, 19 Mar 1912 and 1 Mar 1914.

**Ralph C. Mannuni** – A fictional member (accession number 1103) of the Delta Chi chapter attributed to Brother George Edwin Fox ’61. Mannuni’s original home was allegedly in East Jesus TX. Mannuni is sometimes depicted in House composite pictures with the image from a daguerreotype of John Caldwell Calhoun (American statesman, 1782-1850) taken by Matthew Brady. The original is in the collection of the National Archives and Records Administration, Washington DC.\(^{29}\) Brother Brian Merrick O'Connor '70 later added the elaborations that Mannuni’s complete address was 1313 North Gringo Blvd., East Jesus TX 78636. The zip code was taken from Johnson City, the home of President Lyndon Baines Johnson (1908-73).

**Random Agent** – A stranger or individual having only a casual connection to the chapter.

**Random Geek** – A stranger who is also a Geek.

**Red Ball** – A demerit assigned by a brother, often the **Pledgemaster**, to a pledge in consequence of some failure or delinquency concerning the latter's performance in the pledge program. A Red Ball might be removed by the completion of some assignment. An accumulation of four unexpiated Red Balls automatically converts to a **Black Ball**.

**Registrar** – That brother elected “to record, in a book provided for this purpose, the names and residences of every member of [the] chapter, and also the honors conferred upon them by the
chapter.” The Registrar is addressed as Brother Alpha in chapter meetings and in Fraternity correspondence. In the Nineteen-Thirties, the Alpha was assigned to serve as the editor of *The Delta Chi Deke*.

**Rho** – The chapter’s recording secretary. See *Scriba*. *CMM*, 15 Nov 1884.

**Ring** – To reject a candidate that was under consideration by the brotherhood for selection as a pledge. Opposite of bid. See *Ding*.

**Road Trip** – A journey by motorcar or train taken for recreational purposes. The first recorded Cornell ΔKE road trip was that of Brothers George Adrian Iselin ’72 and William Winterhouse Sabin ’72 who ventured to Niagara Falls in October of 1872.³⁰


**Roosevelt Spruce Trees** – The two Norway Spruce trees (*picea abies*) standing on the west lawn of the Deke House that were planted by Governor Theodore Roosevelt on Cornell Day, 20 June 1899, in memory of Brother Clifton Beckwith Brown ‘00 who was killed in the Battle of San Juan Hill on 1 July 1898.³¹

**Routine** – A memorable folly or episode involving one or more brothers, often humorous. Also: “A song & dance, a little rout, a routing-out, a run-around, a ‘round of business or amusement’: myriads of people, herds, flowerbeds, ships & cities, all going through their routines, life itself a blackout routine, an experimental madness somewhere between dotage and megalomania, lost in the vibration of a wreckage (of some other cosmos we fell out of)...”³²

**Rushing Slips** – AKA Rush Cards. Paper cards measuring approximately 3” x 8” (to fit within the rusher's inside jacket pocket) that are used to record essential biographical data concerning prospective rushees. The card generally included a photograph of the rushee cut from the *Pig Book*.

All part of the tactical wizardry conceived in the previous weeks, long hours between terms in the dovetailed dissection of collected intelligence, identities summed up and catalogued on index cards: name, hometown, school, extracurricular activities, position of father, family income, antecedents, race, religion, salient personal characteristics, tailor (if any), nuances, likes and dislikes.³³

**Scriba** – Archaic. That brother elected “to keep the books of the society, records, archives, etc., to record the transactions of each meeting and read the same at the next regular meeting, [and also] to furnish the *Custos* with an account of the fines and dues imposed upon the members.” The term was superseded by that of *Rho* when the system of Greek letter appellations was adopted circa 1883. *CMM*, 8 Oct 1911.

**Scriptor** – Archaic. That brother elected “to maintain a general correspondence with every other chapter of the Fraternity.” The term was superseded by that of *Iota* when the system of Greek letter appellations was adopted circa 1883. *CMM*, 8 Oct 1911.
Sigma – The chapter's vice-president. See Pater Secundus.

Skull and Bones – A secret senior society (f. 1832) at Yale University that has traditionally drawn much of its membership from the Phi Chapter of ΔKE. Thus many famous Dekes have been tapped to become "Bonesmen," e.g. Gerald Clery Murphy '1235 and George Herbert Walker Bush '48. The society maintains a tomb on High Street in New Haven. The membership was opened up to women in 1991.

Smoke Shop – A concession empowered to sell tobacco products to the brotherhood that was operated by the chapter. CMM, 20 Oct 1907, 25 Feb 1912 and 21 Apr 1912.


Social Chairman – That brother elected to organize and administer social functions for the chapter.

Society Hall – An early name for the chapter's first meeting hall in the Sprague Block leased by Delta Chi from a certain Mr. Babcock for chapter meetings that were conducted from 3 June 1871 until April of 1873. CMM, 3 Jun 1871.

Sphinx Head – A secret men's honorary society (f. 1890) at Cornell. The Sphinx Head Tomb designed by J. Lakin Baldridge was built in 1926. The structure was enlarged in 1978 with an addition designed by Stephen Mensch.

Sprague Block – An 1870 building located at 145-149 East State Street that was designed by Alfred B. Dale (d. 1910). See Society Hall.

Star League – The five leading secret societies at Cornell during the nineteenth century: Zeta Psi (1868), Kappa Alpha (1868), Alpha Delta Phi (1869), ΔKE (1870) and Psi Upsilon (1876). "A sort of political and social 'mafia' under the guise of an athletic league... which organization has since been disbanded, but carries along in the minds of many." CMM, 28 Oct 1870, 30 Nov 1870, 25 Jan 1878, 5 Apr 1890, 5 May 1900, 26 Mar 1911, 28 Apr 1912, 30 Apr 1912 and 13 Apr 1913. See Big Six.

Steward – That brother elected to administer the chapter's refectory, kitchen and dining service.

Student Committee – A standing House committee charged with the task of monitoring the academic status of the junior brothers and pledges. CMM, 26 Oct 1907.

Swing – An initiation, as into a fraternal society. “At several American colleges, the word swing is used for coming out with a secret society badge; first, of the society, to swing out the new men; and second, of the men, intransitively, to swing, or to swing out, i.e. to appear with the badge of a secret society. Generally, to swing out signifies to appear in something new.” CMM, 29 Sep 1882.

Thorne Fund – See Robert Julius Thorne Fund.

Tower Room – A reference either to the second floor study suite or to the third floor bed chamber incorporating the west facade tower structure.

Troll's Room – The basement compartment beneath the spiral stairway leading to the kitchen. The name is taken from a sobriquet applied to Brother George Edwin "'Troll'" Fox '61.

Tubbing – A punishment whereby the miscreant is immersed in a bathtub filled with ice and cold water. Circa 1930-41.

Tweeds – Clothes of any kind.
Undertaker's Ball – A ΔKE party held in the spring. The first was held circa 1988.


Whiz – Traditional name for the Deke House dog⁴². An English bull terrier of that name circa 1908. CMM, 12 Feb 1911 and 19 Nov 1911.
Author/Creator
Fogle, Homer William, Jr., 1948-
Title
Published
Subjects
College societies, Greek letter --Delta Kappa Epsilon
Cornell University, Delta Kappa Epsilon
Deke House (Ithaca N.Y.) --History
Delta Kappa Epsilon –History
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Summary/Abstract
The author tabulates terms and expressions used within the Delta Chi chapter of Delta Kappa Epsilon at Cornell University during the late Nineteen-Sixties.
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System requirements: Internet connectivity, World Wide Web browser and Adobe Acrobat reader.
Notes


8Article IX, Section 11, Constitution of ∆KE, 1883.


10"Grasselli Room Dedicated," The Delta Chi Deke, January 1980.


12Peter A. Gebauer, ed., Annals of Psi Upsilon; 1833-1941 (Executive Council of Psi Upsilon, New York, 1941), p. 84.


15Stiles, p. 399.

16"Brothers Form Band," The Delta Chi Deke, April 1989, p. 4.


19ΔΧ of ΔΚΕ Special Study #2: Delta Chi Chapter Cookbook, 1963-1987

20AGREEMENT dated 26 June 1873, "James T. Morrison to L. G. Boies and others, Delta Kappa Epsilon Society, Lease and Agreement," Liber 7 (Deeds), pp. 274-6, 8 July 1873.


22"On the Campus," The Delta Chi Deke, December 1977, p. 5.

23Delta Kappa Epsilon Alumni Directory, 1991 (Bernard C. Harris Publishing Company, Inc., White Plains NY, 1991), p. ix. The original text from Article III, Section 1, the 1883 ΔΚΕ Constitution is: "The Objects of this organization are the cultivation of general literature, the advancement and encouragement of intellectual excellence, the promotion of honorable friendship and the union of stout hearts to secure to merit its due reward." The Constitution of the Delta Kappa Epsilon as Amended to January 1, 1916, Governing Papers; Delta Kappa Epsilon, Article II, Section 1: "The Objects of the Fraternity are the cultivation of general literature and social culture, the advancement and encouragement of intellectual excellence, the promotion of honorable friendship, the maintenance of gentlemanly dignity and self respect in all circumstances, and the union of stout hearts to secure to merit its due reward."


28Wentworth & Flexner, "Rabbit."


30The Cornell Era, 6 October 1872.


38 Snodderly, p. 24.


40 Wentworth & Flexner, "Swing."

41 Warren C. Smith et. al., audio recording, 14 April 1989.

42 "Remember the Whiz?" The Delta Chi Deke, May 1978, p. 2.