



### INSIDE GRENADE

Parkhurst #43  
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Chapter Report

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## HENRY PARKHURST #43

By Rick Fink Jr. #520

**HENRY PARKHURST** is the Lambda Sigma Chapter's oldest brother at 82 years old. He is a founding brother and is immortalized as number 43 on the scroll.

Delivered into this world by his father during a blizzard on January 2, 1937, Parkhurst was announced in the local

press as Cheshire County's New Year's baby. Despite this accolade, he did not receive a doctor's visit until four days later when roads were finally cleared. Parkhurst grew up in Keene, NH at 99 Island Street, the same house in which he was born, with five other brothers and a sister. "I'm a perfect example of a Depression-era baby," he says.

Mr. Parkhurst attended Keene public schools before being admitted to Keene State College and joining the **Theta Chi Delta** local fraternity in the 1960s. By 1968, America was experiencing changes to the status quo with the emergence of a counterculture energized primarily by the anti-war and civil rights movements. Meanwhile, the brothers of **Theta Chi Delta** were dealing with their own fate as the fraternity became divided about their future.

According to Parkhurst, the **Theta Chi Delta** fraternity was a solid group of young men who excelled in academics and sports. They were an organization in good standing with the school and well respected across campus. Nobody in the fraternity before that time could envision a split within the brotherhood. Yet, in 1968 **TKE** National had their sights set on the local chapter. Parkhurst says things began to change when **TKE** representatives made several visits.

— continued —



"It was like rush. They showed us a good time and told us about all the great things that could happen for us by choosing to go national."

The **Theta Chi Delta** fraternity had a major decision to make; they could remain local and maintain their autonomy or they could convert to **TKE** and become part of something bigger with the support and direction from a national fraternity. The brotherhood was torn. While some brothers were lured by the prestige of **TKE** and embraced the opportunity, others were loyal to **Theta Chi Delta**. **TKE** National's biggest condition perhaps was that in order to be affiliated with Tau Kappa Epsilon there could no longer be a Theta Chi Delta.

Proponents of the change touted the benefits associated with going national and liked the promise of a better house. Despite the difference of opinion about what to do within the fraternity and the contentious meetings among the brothers there was no bitterness toward each other recalls Parkhurst.

"Some brothers would not go **TKE** and in fact walked away from the fraternity. Others were concerned with going national based on the fear of unknowns," says Parkhurst. "In the beginning I had preferred to stay local because it was comfortable but progress is progress. If you don't move on you get run over."

The split became official on May 18, 1968 and the brothers who went on to found the Lamda Sigma chapter continued friendly relationships with their **Theta Chi Delta** brothers who declined **TKE** national's invitation to join.

The order in which the founding brothers are listed on the scroll has no particular significance. There was no first pledge, second pledge, a last pledge and everyone else in between. They were all equals. As Parkhurst recalls, "There was really no particular order. Brothers just lined up and signed the scroll. Maybe officers went first, I don't remember, but the order really didn't matter. We were all happy to be **TKE**."



Present-day Carroll House on Main Street was the original **TKE** House. It was owned by Keene State College and up to 20 brothers paid their housing fees to the school while living there. Like all **TKE** houses to follow, it had a big basement where the beer flowed and the party went into the next day. The chapter took the status of their reputation seriously and were pretty good at policing themselves without conflicts. Drinking in excess was not tolerated. "We would cut off anyone who got out of line. They would have to stay at the house and sleep it off," explains Parkhurst. "Brothers handled it well. There were never any confrontations."

That maturity and responsibility extended into relationships too. "I don't recall any girls ever staying overnight. I think we were very moral. Of course, those girls didn't want to get locked out of their dorms either."



The brothers were gentlemen who rarely used foul language in the house. Parkhurst, who graduated with a degree in secondary education, would come to the house and join other brothers there to study or socialize during the day. Credit for the order and good conduct in the house goes,

in large part, to the housemother fondly referred to as Ma. She worked for KSC as a secretary in the physical education department by day and devoted the rest of her time as house mother. The **TKE** house had an apartment for her exclusively, however, she was so admired by the brothers that she was regularly visited. She had one rule; if you wanted to drink one of the beers in her fridge you had to hang out with her while doing it. Despite living in the house, she was mostly unbothered by the noisy parties. Parkhurst recalls she would simply stick her head out of her door and ask a brother to get it under control.

The friendship between Henry Parkhurst and Ma Stewart began long before he got to Keene State. She was his babysitter while he was growing up in Keene. The age difference was ten to 15 years apart according to Parkhurst. "All the guys would



come up to her apartment and she'd cook for them," he explains. "She was a wonderful cook with a great laugh. We called her 'Cackle.' She commanded a lot of respect. Nobody would ever say anything ill about her."

Parkhurst and Stewart remained close friends until she passed away about 20 years ago. He attended her funeral and nobody in the family wanted her Theta pin so he asked for it. The family was happy to give it to him and he proudly wore it to Lambda Sigma's milestone 50th Annual Reunion in March.

Beyond the good grades and great parties, the emerging Lambda Sigma chapter of the late 60s and early 70s had a solid commitment to philanthropy. The most notable of their endeavors in this area was the annual Christmas party. "We did a lot of volunteering for the kids. We even hosted a Christmas party. Social Services would give us a list of kids who they identified as ones who were underprivileged and would really appreciate it. The house was decorated with all the trimmings. We gave toys to kids - brand new - in the box. Every kid got at least two presents. Electric trains, Barbies, tractors, sleds, whatever they wanted," boasts Parkhurst.

When Henry Parkhurst tells stories of his active days in **TKE** you can hear the pride he has for the chapter he helped create. Decades later, after graduating, he appears to have the same love for his brothers as he did when he was in college. "The biggest thing I can say about the fraternity during that time is that we were brothers in arms. The acceptance was overwhelming. The guys wanted to be **TKE**."

Parkhurst, a long-time resident of Winchester, New Hampshire continued incorporating love, charity, and esteem in his life after college. Over the course of his career as a teacher, he also served the town and volunteered in countless capacities; a Red Cross water safety instructor and a Parks and Recreation lifeguard for 41 years, President of the Board of Trustees and the Board of Incorporators, and a member of the Cemetery Trustees for 35 years are some of the things he can rattle off.

He remains active today. As an entertainer, he does Shakespeare in the park with the public theater in Peterborough, New Hampshire and as an advocate for the people in his community he is presently serving his ninth term in the New Hampshire House of Representatives. Yet nothing he has done can match the uniqueness and broad appeal of being known to thousands of people as "**Mr. Pickle,**" the goodwill ambassador of **Winchester's Annual Pickle Festival.**

"Winchester has deep agricultural roots and we wanted to revitalize the town so we started celebrating something small like the pickle," Parkhurst explains proudly. "I lead the parade and then make all the announcements during the parade." He laughs while explaining the green tuxedo and derby hat he dons every year for the occasion, "I was renting it from a costume shop in Keene for years and they were going out of business so they sold it to me for the price of renting it."

His role as Mr. Pickle made him a local celebrity and he even appeared on Chronicle. He says all walks of life come to sit with him in the gazebo for pictures. "A group of guys from the Hell's Angels came up to

me and said 'we want our f#cking picture taken with f#cking Mr. Pickle.' They had guns and knives on them. Oh they were wonderful."

Reflecting on his run-in with the notorious biker gang in a positive light reveals his disposition that seemingly finds the good in everything. Being born without medical care during the Great Depression and going on to living a fulfilling life must have something to do with that.





# 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Our 50th Anniversary celebration was a smashing success by all accounts and it's not surprising because many of the same Fraters who made the move from Theta Chi Delta to TKE in 1968 and many of the Re-Founders from 2008 were present. In total we believe there to have been 160+ Alumni and 30 Chapter members in attendance. That is 25% of the historical membership of our Chapter and the largest gathering in the history of **LAMBDA SIGMA TKE**.



*The Order of the Shield Plaque*



*Alumni Prytanis Calhoun addresses the Alumni & Chapter*



*Pete Dawson of Headquarters & Some Lambda Sigma Founders*



*Thom Richard #2*



Jesse Comeau, son of Ron Comeau #41 (far left) created a watercolor of the Chapters' original House which was presented to the Chapter at the Founder's Dinner. Holding the print are Fraters Henry Parkhurst #43 & Barry Osborn #7



Not to be outdone... Some of our early 1970's members with a painting of the 53 Marlboro St. House. The painting was done by the mother of Jim Gardner #190. Jim is in the blue shirt holding the painting.



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Chapter Prytanis Simon Jablokow gave a rousing speech that really fired up the room and ended it with a spirited **TKE Once TKE Twice**. Carry your Brick gentleman!



Following the general meeting about 70 **TKE** Lambda Sigma Alumni and Chapter members attended the Founders Dinner at the Alumni Center. The food was outstanding and everyone had a great time. Big thanks to Keene State College for helping organize such a great event.



Not to be forgotten, Some of our Re-founders, who were celebrating their 10th anniversary and were instrumental in organizing the 50th celebration. Of note in the center is Shawn Babine who has made a tremendous effort in helping to re-establishing the Chapter in 2008.



Following the Founders Dinner there was a large gathering of Lambda Sigma Alumni at Penuches where a great time was had by all. But first, a trip down memory lane at Carroll House.



Armand Vien #63 & Robert Ross #32



1972 Pledge Class



Bob Freddette #185, Josh Terrell #325, Paul Dickinson #318, Roman Mrozinski #193





# CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS



**August 18<sup>th</sup>**  
Board Of  
Advisors  
Chapter  
Officers  
Retreat

**September  
15<sup>th</sup>**  
Chapter vs.  
Alumni Flag  
Football  
Event and  
Cookout



**September  
15<sup>th</sup>**  
LS TKE  
Alumni  
Volunteer Day  
at KSC  
Reunion

**October 19<sup>th</sup>**  
Grenade  
Volume 5  
Issue 3  
release



**December  
27<sup>th</sup>**  
Last Day to  
Contribute  
to the TKE  
LS Alumni  
Association

**March 22-24<sup>th</sup>  
2019**  
TKE LS  
Alumni  
Association  
Reunion  
Weekend



# TOP 10 PLEDGE CLASSES

IN REVENUE PRODUCTION			IN TOTAL # OF DONORS		
PLEDGE CLASS	TOTAL REVENUE	POINTS	PLEDGE CLASS	TOTAL DONORS	POINTS
1. Spring 1987	\$5,410	10	1. Spring 1986	9	10
2. Fall 1990	\$5,270	9	Fall 1990	9	10
3. Fall 1986	\$5,130	8	Fall 2008	9	10
4. Spring 1986	\$4,835	7	Spring 2010	9	10
5. Fall 1984	\$4,586	6	2. Fall 1988	7	9
6. Fall 1988	\$3,408	5	Spring 2012	7	9
7. Spring 1984	\$3,095	4	3. Fall 1984	6	8
8. Fall 2008	\$2,496	3	Fall 1987	6	8
9. Spring 1990	\$2,425	2	Spring 1990	6	8
10. Spring 2010	\$2,302	1	Spring 1991	6	8

IN DONOR PARTICIPATION			IN VOLUNTEERS POINTS		
PLEDGE CLASS	% OF CLASS	POINTS	PLEDGE CLASS	TOTAL VOLUNTEERS	POINTS
1. Fall 1984	100%	10	1. Spring 2010	7	7
Spring 2011	100%	10	2. Spring 1986	4	4
3. Spring 2010	82%	9	3. Fall 1984	3	3
4. Fall 2010	80%	8	Fall 2008	3	3
5. Spring 1991	75%	7	4. Fall 1986	2	2
6. Spring 2012	70%	6	Fall 1988	2	2
7. Spring 1986	64%	5	Spring 1990	2	2
Fall 2008	64%	5	Fall 1990	2	2
9. Fall 1990	60%	4	Fall 1993	2	2
10. Fall 1988	54%	3	Spring 2009	2	2
			Spring 2011	2	2
			Spring 2012	2	2

IN AVERAGE REVENUE PER CLASS MEMBER		
PLEDGE CLASS	AVG REVENUE	POINTS
1. Fall 1984	\$764	10
2. Spring 1987	\$541	9
3. Spring 1984	\$515	8
4. Spring 1986	\$372	7
5. Fall 1990	\$351	6
6. Fall 1986	\$342	5
7. Spring 1998	\$281	4
8. Fall 1988	\$262	3
9. Fall 1993	\$250	2
10. Spring 2010	\$209	1

TOP TEN PERFORMING PLEDGE CLASSES OF ALL TIME!!!		
<b>1. FALL 1984</b>	<b>37 POINTS</b>	
2. Spring 1986	33 Points	
3. Fall 1990	31 Points	
4. Spring 2010	28 Points	
5. Fall 1988	22 Points	
Fall 2008	22 Points	
7. Spring 1987	20 Points	
8. Spring 2012	17 Points	
9. Spring 1991	16 Points	
10. Fall 1986	15 Points	

**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FALL 1984 PLEDGE CLASS** for outperforming all others. Look for a profile of William Grady, Pete Smilikis, Chuck Oldham, Dean Naphegyi, John Fischer, and Lew Morrison in the Fall 18 Grenade. Best Pledge Class ever? Maybe. Definitely the best performing Pledge Class in terms of support for our Alumni Association and support for the current Chapter. Thank You Fall 84 for your continued involvement in Lambda Sigma and Thank You to all our Donors and Volunteers!



# TKE GRENADE

## LAMBDA SIGMA CHAPTER NEWS

### CHAPTER BOARD OF ADVISORS

Donald Clemmenson #621  
Interim Chairman  
Ken Sikes #646  
Vice Chairman  
Christian Pedersen #302  
Coordinator of Chapter  
Leadership & Education  
Chuck Oldham #312  
Risk Manager  
Bobby Koolis #710  
Chapter Advisor  
Nicky Brown #632  
Advisor at Large  
Jake Sharkey #662  
Advisor at Large  
DJ Hardisty #663  
Advisor at Large  
Ben Dovidio #657  
Advisor at Large  
Tyler Nadwairski  
Advisor at Large

The Chapter Board of Advisors is made up of Alumni who volunteer their time to oversee the Chapters most critical decisions, finances, and operations.

Thank You Board of Advisors members!



**Congratulations  
to this year's  
Scholarship  
Winners**



Left:

Matthew LaPrade;  
Right: Brian Dale

## CHAPTER REPORT

### Academic Year 2017/2018

**TKE LAMBDA SIGMA** had a solid recruitment effort and as a result grew by 12 new members this past year. Our rush events were consistently successful and well attended. This year the chapter experienced a great closeness among it's members and, the values of brotherhood were dutifully upheld. New member, philanthropy, community service, and brotherly events were all well attended and enjoyed. Of note was the historic 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration where we were able to meet many alumni members.



The Chapter completed 850 community service hours and once again held our successful **"TKE In A Box"** event to raise awareness for the homeless. This event raised \$300 for the Hundred Nights Homeless Shelter. We also participated in the **"Adopt a Street"** program and periodically spent time cleaning up trash around Keene. In addition to our work for Hundred Nights Homeless Shelter we raised \$1600 for Prostate Cancer and collected 350 cans of food for the Keene Community Kitchen.

Our primary philanthropy is Saint Jude Children's Hospital. We planned and executed two events and both were a success. First, our **TKE Sweetheart** event raised \$1700 and second, our **TKE See Saw for a chance** event raised an additional \$300.

**ON THE LEADERSHIP FRONT,** the Chapter sent 4 members and 2 alumni to the Regional Leadership Conference where BOA member Chris Pedersen was presented with the Key Leader award and we also had the opportunity to meet Steve Forbes.

We are looking forward to next year with great anticipation. Our new officers are ready to go and will be participating in our annual Alumni Board of Advisor/Chapter Officer retreat the weekend of August 18th to help prepare for the coming year.

Finally, we would like to thank all our Alumni donors and Alumni Board of Advisors members for continuing to make TKE part of their lives by supporting Lambda Sigma Chapter. Your effort makes Lambda Sigma TKE stronger!

Visit us at [www.LSTKE.com](http://www.LSTKE.com)



**TKE**

# ALUMNI DONOR CLUBS

## ORDER OF APOLLO (\$5,000+)

Colin Calhoun #365

## TRIANGLE (\$2,500 - \$4,999)

Josh Terrell #325, Keith Malatesta #342, Matthew Biggins #434

## MA STEWART (\$1,000 - \$2,499)

Steve Belluardo #282, Eric Germain #301, Chris Pedersen #302, Chuck Oldham #312, Lew Morrison #313, Matthew Gorby #406, Scott Bergeron #493, Andy Knapp #553, Donald Clemmenson #621

## CHERRY & GREY (\$250 - \$999)

Mark Bettencourt #271, Marty Flanagan #277, Paul Power #294, Pete Smilikis #310, Chuck Prive #311, Dean Naphegyi #314, Paul Dickinson #318, John Fischer #320, Richard Larkin #323, Jon Neschis #326, Pete Weiss #331, Brian Duplessis #336, Chris Mead #338, Jim Dolan #348, Matthew Brisson #351, Patrick Dolan #352, Chip Adams #356, Mark Chilicki #370, Matthew Jenkins #377, Mike Girard #378, Dave Farrington #383, Sean Morrissey #386, Michael Barrington #405, Sean Ashburner #421, Richard Towne #423, Eric Krueger #427, Matt Cabana #430, Joe Gibilisco #442, Rob Koniuto #444, Mike Haller #449, Stephen Dube #452, Shane Nickerson #458, Timothy Hay #468, Phil Jacques #504, Richard Fink #520, Brian Hiney #548, Chris Burrows #551, Kevin Mousseau #622, Matt Harrington #629, Sean Powers #631, Nicky Brown #632, Brad Agostino #647, Edward Bell #650, Nate Loomis #652, John Erickson #655, Benjamin Dovidio #657, Jake Sharkey #662, Sean Crater #669, Jonathan Morrison #672, Sean Babine

## BRICK CARRIERS (\$1 - \$249)

Ron Comeau #41, Peter Guay #46, Quentin R Estey #84, Leonard Nelson #93, Robert Caron #218, Doug Allen #268, John Wakefield #281, John Lines #289, William Grady #309, Ron Bailey\* #316, Neal Monahon #321, Dave Sime #327, Shannon Mulvey #329, Jim Sorbello #332, TJ Murphy #333, Keith Baumm\* #340, Carter Freudenhiem, Brenton Dorre #355, Jason Miles #375, Chip Stowell #380, Glenn Turgeon #395, Dennis Goodridge #396, Steven LaRoche #400, Dave Walters #401, Scott Roberts #402, Christopher Lucier #409, Steve McSweeney #419, Paul Thompson #428, Jason Gemmell #433, Scott Harris #435, Ernest Aupperlee #436, David LeBlond #440, Edward LeBrecque #441, Kevin Dwyer #443, Rob Hutchinson #447, Andrew Gutteridge #448, Brian MacDonald #450, Burke York #454, Chris Koch, Rich Beliveau #460, Jerry Taylor #469, Samuel Demmons #470, Mark Lussier #473, Andrew Rice #492, Kristopher Parsons #495, Bryan Towne #496, Ethan Calder #498, Cassidy Furbush #511, Jim Vachon #521, Jason Potter #526, Kyle Zawistowski #544, Casey Lucas #549, Matthew Devine #555, Justin Raymond #556, Matthew St. Germaine #567, Ryan Chatel #616, Eric McCooey #617, Drew Arvin #619, Garrett Costello #620, Brian Finer #623, Josh Helmbrecht #624, Josh Tuliano #634, Scott Campbell #641, Patrick Johnson #642, Ken Sikes #646, Jamie Martin #648, Alexander Odell #649, Deven Perkins #653, Mike Flynn #654, Seth Babel #658, Johnathan Kirchberg #661, DJ Hardisty #663, Andrew Corey #664, Douglas Piroso #665, Derek Blunt #666, Henry Bendel #667, Robert Close #668, Steven Mignano #671, Ben Fredericks #675, Leonard Silverman #676, Nick Swain #683, Robert Koolis #710, Matthew Bergman #696, Tyler Nadwairski

\* Chapter Eternal



The purpose of this Association shall be to serve the Alumni of Tau Kappa Epsilon, Lambda Sigma Chapter of Keene State College, to perpetuate the ideals, friendships, and Brotherhood formed there, by providing opportunities to establish beneficial relations and communications between current and future alumni. To preserve, care take, and promote the history, lore, traditions, artifacts, and institutional memory of Tau Kappa Epsilon, Lambda Sigma Chapter, at Keene State College, and to continue our good work in the areas of charitable donations and scholarship funding to the undergraduate chapter.