

# Sweet Happenings from Your Sweetheart

Sigma Chi ~ Eta Iota

## Eta Iota initiates *two more Brothers!*

In the early morning of Saturday April 16<sup>th</sup>, the Eta Iota Chapter welcomed two more Brothers into the Winged Sig Family – Mark Hannan and Patrick Gonsalves! They became the 790<sup>th</sup> and 791<sup>st</sup> Brothers at the Embry-Riddle Chapter of Sigma Chi.



From Left to Right: Patrick Gonsalves (NIB), Taylor Quackenbush (Consul), and Mark Hannan (NIB) at this semester's Spaghetti Dinner.

### Mark Michael Hannan: "Boomer" 790<sup>th</sup> Initiate

Mark was born in Wickliffe, Ohio on November 7, 1991. He started playing baseball at 5 and football (his favorite!) at 7 and played both all the way through his senior year of high school at Villa Angela St Joseph H.S. in Cleveland Ohio. His freshman year he played J.V. football and one varsity game, but was forced to stop half way through the season due to the compressed 3 vertebrae in his lower back caused by hitting too many people too often in a short period of time.

After his 1<sup>st</sup> football season, Mark tried to wrestle, but his back injury prevented him from being able to do so. His sophomore year he was a member of the Varsity Football and Baseball teams at his high school but during his junior year, at the end of his football season, he found out that he had torn the cartilage in his shoulder joint right off the bone and needed surgery (causing him to miss the baseball season that year). Senior year of sports went smoothly for Mark other than the fact that his pitching speed was completely ruined because of my surgery.

Now Mark is closing out on his freshman year at Embry-Riddle majoring in Aerospace Engineering. His dream is to own a company that manufactures and sells military grade planes and weapons for the US. Mark's hobbies basically boil down to working out and playing pickup games of b-ball with friends. His Big Brother at HI is Taylor Quackenbush.



Here is Mark with Alumnus Brother Jim Lambertson and his Big Brother Taylor at HI's 40<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration.

### Patrick Faherty Golsalves: "Vidab" 791<sup>st</sup> Initiate

Patrick was born on March 31, 1992 and has lived in Norton, Massachusetts his whole life. His family is very close and most of them live in or around Norton. At home, he lives with his mom, dad, sister and dog. He went to a private school from kindergarten till third grade and then began attending public school. In June 2010, he graduated from Norton High School.

One of Patrick's favorite things in the world is sports; baseball and football are his two favorites and he loves playing both. He has been playing baseball since before he can remember and played in organized leagues up until last year. He started playing football in 4<sup>th</sup> grade and it is the only sport

April 27, 2011

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that he played in high school. He started playing basketball when he was around 5 years old and played recreational basketball up until his freshman year. He also played for a travel team for two years. Patrick even played soccer for most of his childhood but stopped after 8<sup>th</sup> grade because it interfered with football too much.

Like Mark, he came to ERAU his past year and is majoring in Aerospace Engineering. At HI, his Big Brother is Tim Englehardt.



Here is Patrick (far right) with Alumnus Brother Kevin Rossignon and Pledge Brother Mark (center) at HI's 40<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration.

## Sigma Chi Summer Dates/Events!

This summer is full of events and training workshops for Sigma Chi Brothers. Here are a list of different events occurring in the next few months:

**Horizons:** HI Attending is Josh Chancey  
June 5-12, June 13-19, July 10-16, and July 17-24

**BLTW:** University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill  
July 28-30

**Grand Chapter:** Dallas, TX  
June 23-26



## Greek Life Awards for *Eta Iota!*



Every year, the ERAU Fraternity and Sorority Life Office honors members of the Greek Community for different things that they or their Chapter had done including such things as Recruitment, Philanthropy, and Pledge Programs. Eta Iota is proud to announce that Josh Chancey, initiated in Fall 2010, was honored by the Greek Community for being the *New Member of the Year* for 2011! Jim Baldyga was also recognized by being a member of the Greek Community with above a 3.75 GPA!



Newman hanging out with Brother, Dan Duquette, at the Fraternity House.



Marc with fellow Pledge Class Brothers at an ERAU All-Greek Training Workshop!

"Sigma Chi, more than anything else, got me involved with the people who knew how to study, and they helped me. I learned from them. *The Norman Shield* is still quite applicable now."

- Dr. William DeVries  
The Louisville, Kentucky surgeon who performed the first four implants of the permanent artificial heart.

## Meet the *J-Board Chair* - Aaron Christopher Newman [[a.newman77@gmail.com](mailto:a.newman77@gmail.com)]

Aaron Newman was born on April 5, 1991 and is from Grantsville, Maryland and is a huge Pittsburgh Penguins Fan! He was initiated in the Gamma Lambda pledge class (Fall 2010) and was given the nickname "Pvt Cowboy" from his big brother. Called Newman by many, he was the 755<sup>th</sup> initiate at Eta Iota. At Embry-Riddle, Newman is

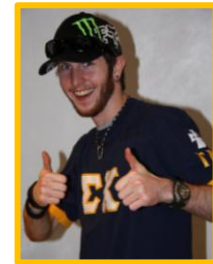
majoring in Aeronautical Science and minoring in Business. In his free time, he enjoys golfing, flying, swimming, and fishing. Newman has also participated in two separate mission trips to Biloxi, Mississippi to help with hurricane relief and had participated in community services around his hometown.



## Meet a *By-Law Committee Member* - Kyle Sellers [[sellek09@hotmail.com](mailto:sellek09@hotmail.com)]

Kyle Sellers, nicknamed "Duck Bane" was the 783<sup>rd</sup> initiated Brother at Eta Iota. He pledged in the fall of 2010 and was a member of the Gamma Nu Pledge Class. He was born on October 26, 1990 and came all the way from Indiana to attend school at Embry-Riddle. At school, Kyle is

majoring in Aerospace Engineering and may potentially change his degree to Engineering Physics. He enjoys playing X-Box and snowboarding in his spare time and has earned the highest honor in the Boy Scouts - the Eagle Scout Award.



## Meet an *Active Brother* - Marc Halikas [[marchalikas@gmail.com](mailto:marchalikas@gmail.com)]

Marc Halikas came to Embry-Riddle from Surf City, New Jersey. He just recently celebrated his 20<sup>th</sup> Birthday on April 18<sup>th</sup>. He was in the Gamma Lambda Pledge Class with Aaron Newman and became the 765<sup>th</sup> initiate at Eta Iota. Prior to being an Active

Brother this semester, Marc served as the Chapter's Historian. In his free time, Marc enjoys going to the beach and going both surfing and skimboarding. At Embry-Riddle, Marc is studying Aeronautical Science and has a minor in Air Traffic Control.

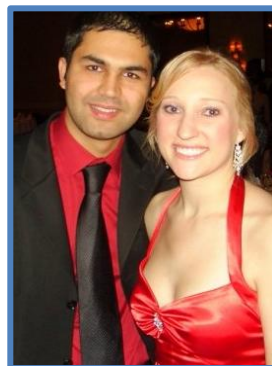


## Where are they now? Catch up with alumni and see what they have been up to!

### *Arash Sabet - Rasekh*

Arash came to Embry-Riddle in the fall of 2006 to study Aerospace Engineering. He pledged Sigma Chi in fall 2007 (the Gamma Eta Pledge Class). While as an undergraduate student, Arash held several positions within the fraternity including, Pro-Consul, Quaestor, Tribune, and Chapter Editor. He also worked as a Lab Manager for the school labs.

Arash attended the Balfour Leadership Training Workshop in summers '09 and '10 and was the recipient of the fall 2010 Torrisi Scholarship (presented by Ramano Sprueel in honor of his Big Brother).



He graduated with a Bachelors of Science Degree in Aerospace Engineering with minors in mathematics and high performance vehicles in the fall 2010. Arash is currently in graduate school at ERAU working on his Masters of Science in Mechanical Engineering. He is involved with the Sport Compact and Import Car Club on campus. Currently, Arash is working full time as a business and systems analyst for Embry-Riddle Worldwide.

In his free time, Arash enjoy playing and watching sports, reading, playing poker, working on his car. His future plans include obtaining his Fundamentals of Engineering Certification, finishing graduate school by the spring of 2013, and work for a successful engineering firm.

# 40<sup>th</sup> Birthday Adventures!

Eta Iota recently celebrated its 40<sup>th</sup> Birthday – and boy was it a celebration! Starting on Thursday March 31<sup>st</sup>, Brothers and families toured the Embry-Riddle campus and got to experience in all of the university's changes over the years. The weather was kind of cold and rainy but it did not stop anyone – they still had a good time joining together at ERAU one last time! Many Brothers had an even better time celebrating their return to Daytona Beach at the Ocean Deck Bar and Grill that night!



Saturday morning brothers arose and attended the annual House Corp meeting in which the new executive committee was established. The positions are: President – Brett Miller, Vice President – Nick Weiss, Secretary – Phil Holloway, and Treasurer – Seth Downs. The Eta Iota House Corp Trustees are now Bill Palmer and Mike Wyble (expires 2012), Jeff Penn and Brad Vomacka (expires 2013), and Ramano Sprueil and Derek Pizzo (expires 2014).



But, Friday April 1<sup>st</sup> is when the real festivities began. Brothers and their guests were able to check in at the Fraternity House beginning at 10am and were in and out of the house all day long. Some Brothers went to play a few rounds of golf at the golf course while others hit up the beach and got some color. Towards the late afternoon the house started filling up and there were Sigma Chi letters emblazoned everywhere around the house! That night Brothers enjoyed a fantastic barbecue and danced all night to live music. It was quite a night!

Saturday night Brothers and their families enjoyed a luau feast at the Hilton Resort Hotel. Full of amazing food and great drinks, everyone was in good spirits and very bright clothes! It was a great night full of awards, laughter, and a wonderful speech from a Significant Sig from Eta Iota. Terry Owens, Eta Iota's 1<sup>st</sup> Consul, wrote a very heartfelt letter to the men of Eta Iota from all over the years read by Brother Rob Tetrault. It read:

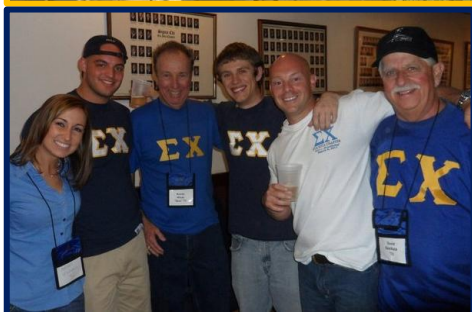
*To my fellow brothers of Eta Iota,*

*I am so disappointed that I am unable to attend our 40<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party and have to miss the opportunity to thank each and every one of you for your part in carrying on the Eta Iota traditions. From our first meeting as Sigma Chi Delta, myself and the rest of the founders set out to become a chapter of Sigma Chi in the shortest time possible. We were able to accomplish this in a little less than a year and were so proud when we were awarded with the Charter as the Eta Iota Chapter of Sigma Chi. One of my fondest memories was the reading of a telegram from John Wayne congratulating us on becoming the newest chapter of Sigma Chi and was signed "The Duke".*

*It is hard to believe it has been 40 years since that day and that there are now over 700 brothers of Eta Iota. Thank all of you for living up to our original goal of sharing our brotherhood with men committed to the betterment of character, campus and community. Oh yeah, and with a whole lot of partying in-between.*

*Thanks again Brothers. You have made all of the original founders proud of your accomplishments over the years. Please share your experiences and love of Sigma Chi with others and help continue the traditions of Eta Iota for another 40 years.*

*In Hoc, Terry Owens Founding Consul*



Brother Hugh Mills was the keynote speaker that night and spoke about his experiences in the military and at Embry-Riddle, and how Sigma Chi significantly affected his life.



Ramano Sprueil gave his annual Torrisi scholarship and awarded Jim Baldyga with 1<sup>st</sup> place and Trevor Simms with 2<sup>nd</sup>. Founder's awards were also presented to the Brother who best lives up to the ideals of each of those significant men. They were Thomas Cowan Bell (Trevor Simms), James Parks Caldwell (Taylor Quackenbush), Daniel William Cooper (David Cruz), Isaac M. Jordan (Jeremiah Poff), William Lewis Lockwood (Rick Lapp), Benjamin Piatt Runkle (Josh Chancey), and Franklin Howard Scobey (Jonny Jacobs). The 1<sup>st</sup> Norman Shield Award was also given to Brother Jim Baldyga.



Throughout the course of the weekend, a lot of money was also raised for the Chapter. At Saturday's dinner, Brothers participated in a 50/50 raffle – out of that, \$1250 was raised for the active chapter! House Corp was also collected donations all weekend. Seth Downs was seen walking around with a thermometer to be colored in as the \$20,000 donation goal got closer and closer. He filled the thermometer with red, whenever anyone either gave money on the spot or pledged to give a donation, in the form of joining the 1855 Club by making monthly donations; if someone pledged to give \$41.67 a month, he would count that as \$500 (annual total) on the thermometer. Currently House Corp has made \$11,000 this month, with annual

1855 membership and pledges to donate going a little over \$20,000. The 1855 membership went from 49 members to 82 and there 8 more alumni that have pledged to join.



All in all, Brothers from the past 40 years definitely enjoyed themselves a little less than a month ago as they joined together to celebrate Eta Iota's 40<sup>th</sup> Birthday.

The celebration even got some great press too! James Ahrens, the 40<sup>th</sup> Birthday coordinator, published an

article in *eagleNEWS* (the news source for Embry-Riddle Alumni). Here is what he sent in:

**Sigma Chi Celebrates 40 Years at Embry-Riddle**

Over 300 alumni, guests, and active chapter members descended on Daytona Beach from March 31 to April 3rd for 4 days celebrating the 40th Birthday Party for the Eta Iota Chapter of Sigma Chi at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Daytona Beach, Florida. The chapter was founded March 6th, 1971 and has initiated over 800 brothers since then.

Our festivities started on Thursday with a tour of the campus and a reception hosted by the Alumni Association office. Then on Friday President Johnson and Dan Montplaisir joined 30 brothers for a golf tournament at Spruce Creek Golf Club.

The party was cranked up later Friday with a giant BBQ hosted at the Sigma Chi fraternity house at 520 S. Ridgewood Ave. Over 300 people enjoyed seeing each other, sharing stories, and rocking out to the band Yummy!

The reason for the annual birthday party is for alumni to return for the Eta Iota House Corporation annual meeting to support the fraternity house. Topics included the future of the house, fund raising, and support of the active chapter.

By Saturday night everyone was ready to put on their Hawaiian shirts and leis for the big Parrothead Cocktail party with music by Skip "Steel Daddy" Lilly. Then everyone feasted on the Margaritaville Buffett Buffet

prepared by our own Hayden Haddox and enjoyed listening to JD Spradlin from Radio Margaritaville.

Our guest speaker for the evening was Significant Sig Hugh Mills '74 who flew the Hughes OH-6 Cayuse during 2 tours in Vietnam. Hugh was shot down sixteen times, wounded three times, and earned numerous decorations for valor, including three Silver Stars, four Distinguished Flying Crosses, and three Bronze Stars with V devices.

Our Sweetheart Michelle Rodio '11 handed out several awards and was serenaded by over 200 brothers singing the Sweetheart of Sigma Chi song. And Brother Ramano Sprueil '94 handed out 2 scholarships to deserving brothers.

Everything wrapped up on Sunday with a huge chapter meeting with brothers spanning 40 years sharing the bonds of brotherhood.

Pictures from the weekend can be found at many sources. There are over 700 pictures on the Sweetheart's FaceBook Page (*Sweet Hart*) - many of which were provided from Brother Ramano Sprueil. Brother Jeff Penn also has posted 5 albums of pictures from the event for Brother's viewing pleasure. Pictures are also posted on the Eta Iota Website (<http://www.etaiota.org/news/eta-iota-photos/>) and at this link: [https://picasaweb.google.com/100636484748477180383/EtaIota40thBirthday?authkey=Gv1sRgCLqh49PL4v\\_bjA&feat=email#](https://picasaweb.google.com/100636484748477180383/EtaIota40thBirthday?authkey=Gv1sRgCLqh49PL4v_bjA&feat=email#). Enjoy! ☺



**The *Sweetest* Goodbye ... until the next issue of course!**

Well, it has come to the time where I must part for the summer! I will be super busy with my internship with Lockheed Martin but will try my best to keep in contact with everyone. I hope you all enjoyed reading the past 7 issues of *Sweet Happenings from Your Sweetheart* as much as I have enjoyed writing them.

I want to personally thank all of the Brothers who serenaded me at Birthday - it was a profound experience for me, one that I will remember for a lifetime. It meant the world to me just to share in those few special moments with Eta Iota Brothers from the past and present. This past semester representing the men of HI has touched my life forever and I cannot wait until school begins again in the fall for me to continue to represent you all again! I have so many plans and hope to incorporate all of them come August.

Farewell until then ... *Love Your 2011 Sweetheart*

**Brothers Celebrate *Easter 2011* at the Fraternity House!**



Brothers and Sweethearts joined together this past Sunday to celebrate Easter with one another - and boy was there a feast. People were stuffed with a honey baked ham, scalloped potatoes, baked macaroni and cheese, green bean casserole, corn, biscuits, and salad. And of course, it was all washed down with some nice ol' Easter candy. But of course, the candy was not easy to obtain. The Brothers were sent on a VERY competitive Easter Egg Hunt coordinated by myself and Bridget Cox (Sweetheart 2009 and 2010). They set off to run around the house to find 160 eggs filled with all kinds of candy. And boy, did they enjoy it! It was, all in all, a great day celebrating with one another and just reminded everyone how special family and Brotherhood is to be with on Easter!