



ETA IOTA HOUSE CORPORATION NEWSLETTER

Sigma Chi Fraternity
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University

Spring 2003

2002-03 OFFICERS

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www.etaiota.org

-TREASURER UPDATE-

From the Office of the House Corp Treasurer (okay, the corner of a spare bedroom where I keep all my crap):

The Good News:

This year's budget seems to be right on target. Halfway through the year and we are 48% into the maintenance budget. There is still some scheduled work to be done at good ol' 520 S. Ridgewood. An interior designer is being brought in to spruce up the kitchen and some door replacements are in the works. Without any unforeseen expenses, we should be able to head into the next year with a surplus in our general operating account. The 1855 Club is still going strong, as our long-term savings has grown approximately 20%. Keep in mind how important these ongoing contributions are to the House Corp. These monies are dedicated for strategic savings for that inevitable time in the future when we need to completely overhaul the current house, build a new house or move. It is important that these funds are in place so that we can be proactive in our decision-making and not have to be forced into a situation.

The other initiative we are heading up is the effort to 'straighten out' our books and officially become a tax-exempt organization. Proper filings are yet another requirement we need to have in place if we as a Corporation are to obtain financing in the future.

The Not so good news:

We are currently working on the budget for the 2003-04 school year.

As stated above, we will enter the new year with a modest surplus in our general operating account.

Of course, if all things stayed the same, we would be in good shape again with the expected income from rent, the expenses of mortgage, insurance and maintenance. However, as we all know, things will not stay the same:

If we were to impose a 2% increase in rent, we would still expect to fall short for the year by approximately \$7000. The

RMF insurance premiums have increased drastically over recent years and we are again being told to project an estimated 50-70% increase. Most likely, some of this money will come from the Active Chapter and some from the House Corp general operating account to help offset this increase. However, looking ahead to 2004-05, there will be no surplus in the operating account and without dipping into long-term savings, the Active Chapter could see a rent increase of 20% to cover rising insurance costs.

The cornerstone of this situation is obviously our insurance expenses for the coming year(s). We, along with many other House Corporations, are looking for ways to curb these increases and get back to reasonable rates. We will keep you posted on any new developments with our finances or with the ongoing insurance roller coaster.

- TURFITT AWARDED FOUNDING CONSUL AWARD -

Last Fall, immediately following the Alumni Spaghetti Dinner, House Corp Officers John Banta and Brian Lojko presented Tommy Turfitt with the 2002 Terry Lee Owens Founding Consul Award.



John Banta, Tommy Turfitt & Brian Lojko

This presentation, consisting of a plaque and a financial contribution made possible by Terry Owens, is awarded annually to an undergraduate member of the chapter who exemplifies great commitment to the chapter while also maintaining honorable academic standards. Congratulations to Tommy on his outstanding accomplishments!

-ETA IOTA'S 32 BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION-

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

Friday March 21, 2003

- Starting at 5pm - Party @ the Sigma Chi Fraternity House
 - Live Band
 - BBQ
 - BEvERages

Saturday March 22, 2003

- 12pm – House Corporation Meeting @ Fraternity House
- 2pm – Daytona Beach Alumni Chapter Meeting @ Fraternity House
- 6pm – Seafood Dinner Buffet @ Inlet Harbor
- 10pm – Drink Specials for all Sigma Chi's at 600North

Sunday March 23, 2003

- Mock Initiation for alumni put on by the undergraduate chapter
- 5pm – Second Review

*RSVP to Bret Bergman by March 14, 2003, by e-mail, Coogedy@aol.com, or by phone, 954-557-4751. Price is estimated to be \$45 per person. Hotel Rooms can be reserved at Days Inn, which is just two properties south of the Fraternity House on Ridgewood Ave. (386) 255-4500. Check the website for updates and changes to birthday weekend. Hope to see many alumni show!!

Any questions, contact Mark Nicalek at nicklez@aol.com



-NOTICE OF 2003 ANNUAL HOUSE CORP MEETING-

The annual meeting of The Eta Iota House Corporation will be held on Saturday, March 22nd, 2003 at 12 noon at the Sigma Chi Fraternity House at 520 South Ridgewood Avenue Daytona Beach, FL 32114. All alumni members are encouraged to attend and participate.

The preliminary agenda includes:

- Officer Reports
- Updates & Discussions:
 - Housing
 - Insurance
 - Fund Raising
 - Tax Status, etc.
- New Business
 - 2003-2004 Officer Elections



2003-2004 House Corporation Officer Nomination Form

Mail the completed form to any of the House Corporation Officers listed on the front of this newsletter or email your nominations to House Corporation president, John Banta at magnum@ntplx.net

President: _____
Vice President: _____
Treasurer: _____
Secretary: _____

After many years of faithful service, etaiota.org has received a well-deserved face-lift along with new functionality intended to keep the chapter presence on the world-wide-web fresh and current.

Eta Iota Webmaster, Bill Palmer, and John Banta worked together on the overhaul to bring together a new design and user experience to more efficiently organize and present the information and functionality developed over the years.

Next time on the web with nothing else to do, check out the new site:

1. **Eta Iota News** section displayed prominently on the homepage. This content will be updated fairly regularly with important chapter or web site information so take a look!
2. **Today's Birthdays** highlights those brothers who are celebrating a birthday - made possible thanks to one of many of Palmer's handy scripts scattered throughout the site.
3. **Header Image and Navigation Bar.** This navigation bar appears at the top of every page throughout the site, making it possible to get to any section in 1 click. The new sections (House Corp, Member Directory, Newsletters, Fund Raising, Job Listings, Guest Book, and Pictures) all feature a unique header image to more clearly identify where you are in the site.
4. **Eta Iota's eGroup** – Sign up to our eGroup right from the homepage to receive email messages posted by our members.
5. **Lost Brothers** are listed right here. Take a look and let us know if you know where they are. The list is automatically updated and we seem to pick up a few more with every mailing we send out.
6. **Footer** – As another way to navigate the site, you will see this consistent footer on ever page. From here, you can click to any other section or email the webmaster directly with comments or questions regarding the site.

Some of the less obvious enhancements included with the new site powering the back-end:

- Easy to update content pages allow house Corp and chapter Officers to update content without knowing any html. What else could Chuck Bonini possibly need before he updates the Chapter Advisor page?
- An improved administration area for database administrators to manage and maintain our contact information.
- Improved mailing list capabilities enabling House Corporation Officers to send updates and chapter information to those who are subscribed.

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Eta Iota of Sigma Chi website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Home, House Corporation, Undergraduate Chapter, Member Directory, Newsletters, Fund Raising, Job Listings, Guest Book, and Pictures. A large '3' is overlaid on the navigation bar. Below the navigation bar, a welcome message reads: 'Welcome to the new etaiota.org Home of the Winged Sigs at Embury-Riddle Aeronautical University'. The main content area is divided into several sections:

- Eta Iota News:** A section titled '32nd Birthday Celebration' with a '1' callout. It contains text about the upcoming birthday weekend (March 21-23, 2003) and a link to 'read Mark Hunsick with our questions'.
- Member Database:** A section with a '1' callout. It asks if the user knows where a brother is and offers to help find them. It includes a '1' callout on the text 'Did you know that you can find your address information right here online? It's easy. Just go to the Member Directory section of the site and, once logged in, you can update your own contact information, search for other Eta Iota Brothers, or even view birthday lists.'
- Today's Birthdays:** A section with a '2' callout. It says 'No Brothers are celebrating a birthday today.'
- Eta Iota's eGroup:** A section with a '4' callout. It says 'Stay updated on chapter activities and announcements from our members by joining the Eta Iota eGroup (powered by Yahoo!).' It includes a form to enter an email address.
- The 1855 Club:** A section with a '4' callout. It says 'Help ensure the financial future of the chapter by participating in Eta Iota's fund raising program. Learn more by clicking on the logo.'
- Donations to the Undergraduate Chapter:** A section with a '5' callout. It says 'The undergraduate chapter also needs your support. While the 1855 Club helps ensure that the long term housing needs of the chapter will be met, more everyday needs are met by your donations directly to the undergraduate chapter. More information.'
- Lost Brothers:** A section with a '5' callout. It says 'If you have current contact information for any of these brothers, please contact Dave Siskin.' It lists names of members who are missing.
- Klyde Morris:** A section with a '6' callout. It features four comic strips about Klyde Morris and his adventures.

At the bottom of the page, there is a footer with copyright information and a list of links: home | house corporation | undergraduate chapter | member directory | newsletters | fund raising | job listings | guest book | pictures | read the website.



Internet Corner

Wendy 'Mistress of The Web' Papson

You know, not to sound like a sour Sally, but I'd just about given up on this internet thing when I came across this great new site. I can read all about John Wrightington and Big Lar as they sling their best drinking related insults back and forth. Where else could I possibly hear how the visiting sorority girls think that all Sigma Chi boys 'Rock'. Sunchick444: you better not be talking about my fiance! I love it, much more exciting than appraising my Muppet collectibles on eBay!

-UNDERGRADUATE UPDATE-

Welcome Back! Just three weeks into the Spring Semester and our calendar is filling quickly. With Pete Cameron, Consul, and the rest of our executive board at the helm, things are off to a great start. The semester began with our infamous bi-annual Welcome Back Party that was prematurely broken up by the police, but all in all a good time. Rush week consisted of everything from gladiator-style jousting to loops around the go-cart track. Another success was the always-delicious spaghetti dinner. Thanks goes out to all those who spoke that evening and to our Sweetheart, Maggie Hays, who topped off the night with a number of delicious deserts. Rush week officially came to an end as dozens of us gathered in the chapter room to watch the Super Bowl on a 60-some inch big screen television, maybe next year Raiders. Finally, congratulations go out to Logan Sultenfuss, Rush Chairman, for a job well done!

Following rush week Nick Hoefer, Magister, received eight new pledges constituting Beta Chi Pledge Class. Although few in number, we pledged the most out of all the Fraternities on campus. The house is looking better everyday thanks to our overqualified House Manager/Contractor, Robert Tetrault. At the request of House Corporation, Eta Iota recently conducted a house improvement project consisting of a variety of tasks around the house. Due to House Corporation's generosity in helping out with the recent RMF increases this year, the Chapter has planned several fundraisers to cushion our budget for this upcoming fall.

Our presence on campus has increased dramatically. Thanks to the continuous urging of Alumni Grant Petronsky, Eta Iota is

a major supporter/promoter for the Embry-Riddle basketball team this semester. Rumor has it Grant has even been sighted dressed as a seven-foot tall eagle lurking around campus. Large turnouts are filling the stands of the ICI Center with rows of ΣX Jerseys. Our beloved "Van" has been a great attribute and has hosted a number of tailgate parties before the games. For those of you interested on "The Van" the latest improvement is a trailer-mounted grill that makes the pre-game that much more enjoyable. The Athletic Department showed their appreciation for our efforts by broadcasting, live, Basketball Coach Steve Ridder's weekly radio talk show from the chapter room. It was the first live broadcast of the show and certainly some excellent public relations for the chapter.

The weekend of February 7th – 9th UCF is hosting the annual Province. The brothers are looking forward to this upcoming event and expect it to be a learning experience and a good time. Balfour Leadership Training Workshop will be held in Nebraska this summer; those participating are getting pumped up for another memorable visit to LT Dubbs. Speaking of BLTW, Mark Nicalek has been elected as Eta Iota Balfour most outstanding graduating senior. Congratulations Mark and best of luck! An optimistic semester awaits us here at Eta Iota and we hope to see you all soon for our 32nd Birthday. Thank you for all your support!

Jeff Feliciano (*Pro Consul*)
&
Brent von Stein (Tribune)

-ETA IOTA SCHOLARSHIPS-

Last year, Brother Ryan Donley tragically entered The Chapter Eternal after losing the battle with Leukemia. At the time of Ryan's hospitalization, he was without medical insurance and it appeared that his widow, Past Eta Iota Chapter Sweetheart Daphne Donley and Ryan's parents, Chris and Margie, would be forced to bear the tremendous burden of the intensive care unit expenses. As is customary among our Order, the call went out to generate the financial support for Daphne, Chris, and Margie should other options fall short in providing for their needs. ΣXs, ΑΕΔs (Daphne's sorority), ERAU students, and even ERAU Trustees, donated money to support the Donleys.

Fortunately, Florida Medicare was able to cover the medical bills. So the question was posed by Daphne to Eta Iota House Corporation members, "What should I do with the money that was donated by such caring individuals?" Brian Lojko discussed options with Daphne, and subsequently with South Florida Province Grand Praetor, Julio "Dances with Porkchops" Varela. After conducting some research regarding the pros and cons of each option, and explaining the information to Chris and Daphne, the Donleys decided to create The Ryan Donley Memorial Scholarship Fund. The Fund will be maintained by The Sigma Chi Foundation, and administered by the Eta Iota House Corporation.

Each year, a deserving Eta Iota Undergraduate Aeronautical Science student will be awarded a grant to help offset educational expenses. The first scholarship grant will be presented by Chris and Margie Donley at Eta Iota's 32nd Birthday Party, March 21st – 23rd, 2003.

Brothers, friends, relatives, may donate to The Ryan Donley Memorial Scholarship Fund to help support the cause, and to remember Ryan and how his life impacted the Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, The Eta Iota Chapter, and The Sigma Chi International Fraternity. To contribute to The Fund, tax-deductible donations may be sent to The Sigma Chi International Fraternity c/o The Ryan Donley Memorial Scholarship Fund:

***Sigma Chi Foundation
c/o The Ryan Donley Memorial Scholarship Fund
1714 Hinman Avenue
Evanston, IL 60201***

Please be sure to specify on the check and in an accompanying note the desired destination of the gift and that your gift is being given in Ryan's memory. Each year The Magazine of Sigma Chi will publish this information in its Annual Report Issue.

-HOUSING AND ALUMNI PROGRAMS-

The Eta Iota House Corporation has taken on two important missions that will come to maturity over the next four to six months. The first is the development of a strategic plan for housing the undergraduate brothers, and the second is the execution of a new alumni program that will allow our distinguished alumni brothers to Relive the Spirit of Youth and Strengthen the Bonds of Sigma Chi Brotherhood.

While we are not currently in a position to make a decision with regard to the future of Eta Iota's housing, we are, however, actively gathering all of the information required to make a decision in the not-so-distant future. We intend to be the masters of our destiny, and to do so requires comprehensive, systematic planning, and the continued financial support through your generous contributions to all of our programs.

Over the past six months The Eta Iota House Corporation has investigated housing opportunities that range from on-campus housing to construction of a new building. The House Corporation has enlisted the services of local Sigma Chi alumni Tom Hart and Dwight Selby. Tom is a highly respected attorney, and Dwight is the most successful commercial real estate agent in Volusia County. They often work together on commercial real estate projects and were kind enough to meet with Brian Lojko at the beginning of August 2002.

The first step taken was to conduct a rough order of magnitude estimate of the costs associated with renovating the existing property and subsequently estimate the costs associated with construction of new property. New property could theoretically be

developed with or without the cooperation of The University. The second step was to outline at a very high level the logistics required for any major construction activities. The final two steps included a survey of the county zoning maps in order to identify potential land acquisition opportunities and a discussion of real estate development projects in close proximity to 520 South Ridgewood and the impact they may have on our property value. In order to develop a complete picture of our housing situation, separate House Corporation discussions were held internally regarding The University's current development plans and what future support they may provide Eta Iota and ERAU Greeks in general.

At a Board of Directors meeting held on Saturday, November 23rd, 2002, it was decided to create a strategic housing plan to be presented to The House Corporation Board of Trustees at a future date. A decision will be made at this time regarding the direction we intend to take for the future of Eta Iota. This is an ambitious schedule, but one that must be undertaken if we are to continue to successfully provide housing for the undergraduates and to be leaders at ERAU.

So ends the discussion of The House Corporation's housing plans. As for the new alumni programs, it's a little thing John and Brian like to call...

YOU'LL SEE!!

Keep an eye on your mailbox!

The Eta Iota House Corporation would like to extend their unending gratitude for the support Tom Hart and Dwight Selby have provided to Sigma Chi.

-1855 CLUB AUTHORIZATION FORM-

Name & Address: _____

Your Name on the Account: _____

Bank Name: _____

Bank Address: _____

Bank Routing Number: _____
 (see example check below)

Bank ABA Number: _____
 (see example check below)

Bank Account Number: _____
 (see example check below)

Contribution Level:
 (please circle one)

Blue..... \$9.27 per month (\$18.55 bi-monthly)

Gold..... \$18.55 per month

White Cross \$42.24 per month

Constantine \$154.58 per month (\$1855 per year)

Your monthly draft will remain in full force and effect until revoked by you, your financial institution, or The Eta Iota House Corporation. This option is offered at no charge by The Eta Iota House Corporation for fundraising purposes. To request adjustments to incorrect charges or to cancel this option, contact The Eta Iota House Corporation Treasurer or Fundraising Chairman. Current contact information can be found at www.etaiota.org.

Signature Required: _____
 (must be the authorized signer for the account indicated above)

Date: _____

Ben Runkle 520 South Ridgewood Ave Daytona Beach, FL 32114	DATE _____	1855 32-21110 FL (Bank ABA Number)
Pay to the Order of _____	\$	<input type="text"/>
_____ Dollars		
(9 Digit Bank Routing Number)	(Account Number)	(Check Number)
111000252	001658415976	1855