



Fall 2002

ETA IOTA UNDERGRADUATE NEWSLETTER

Sigma Chi Fraternity
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University

E-Newsletter Available Online

Printed versions of the newsletters are only being sent to those brothers who do not have an email address on record in our Online Database and to those who do but have specifically requested to receive paper newsletters. An online version will also be available on the undergraduate website which can be linked to at www.etaiota.org. Updates for the remainder of the semester will also be available on the undergraduate website.

FROM THE DESK OF THE CONSUL

Brothers, so far this semester things have been very productive. The Beta Phi pledge class managed to work their way through first review, although their numbers are down to 13 as of now. With second review coming up on November 10th the Sigma Chi House is flourishing with pledge activity.

After the completion of Greek Week 2002 we managed to secure 3rd place overall. I have no doubts due to the increased participation this year that next year, with a little practice, 1st place is within our grasp.

Thanks to the diligent work of Pete Cameron, *Pro Consul*, Eta Iota's relations with 600 North are thriving. Every Monday Night the Brothers of Eta Iota find their way down to The Plaza for a eventful evening of Monday Night Football. Not only are Monday night's packed full of excitement, but now on Thursday's we have helped 600 North host College Night. Due to the over abundance of males in Daytona Beach we have resorted to busing in girls from Stetson University to even out the typical male to female ratio. 600 North seems to be so popular with the Brothers these days I'm contemplating holding our chapter meetings there to boost attendance.

Cameron has also been working with many of the Greek organizations on campus in hopes of bettering inter-fraternal relations. We even have what some brothers are calling a "Social" this weekend with AHP out at disappearing island. Speaking of socials, the Alpha Chi Omega Sorority made an appearance this past weekend as Sigma Chi hosted, "Dirty Doctors & Naughty Nurses." As I am sure you can imagine the freaks came out of the woodwork that night.

Moving along, Ramano Sprueil presented the Charles A. Torrissi Memorial Scholarship this semester, and the winner is...Richard Winter. While we are on the subject of Scholarships, this may be a good time to mention this forgotten award. I found myself perusing the various plaques on the walls of the Library not too long ago and what did I find, the "Brother with the Highest Semester GPA Award." From the looks of it, the last time it was awarded was Fall 1978 and Riddle was using Trimesters still. I believe the chapter use to present this award with a check from the chapter funds. With the budget being tight, as it always is, perhaps I can setup a way for some of the Alumnus to donate money to the Highest GPA fund. If you are interested in bringing back this lost tradition please feel free to contact me at bvonstein@yahoo.com. That will just about wrap

it up for this month's report. I hope all is well and to see you in the future.

Brent Vonstein, Consul



Tug-O-War at Greek Week

NEW HI BANK ACCOUNT

Chuck Bonini and myself have recently opened up a new savings account at Bank of America which is set-up for direct alumni donations to the undergraduate chapter. The exec. officers have mentioned how alumni don't donate as much to the house as they do to house corp. which is because they don't know where their money would be going. In order to better guide the donations of our esteemed alum, we have created the Eta Iota Alumni Fund. Alumni that would like to donate directly back to the undergrads can send checks to Chuck Bonini or myself. All of the donations will be put into the savings account. If you would like your donation to go toward a certain event or just to buy the brothers some beer you can request where you would like the money to go. We are still in the planning stages with this account. Some other uses could be toward helping relieve the fees of registration for BLTW and Province. Please look on www.etaiota.org in the fund raising section for updates and information about the account. Thanks!

Brad Vomacka, Quaestor

2002

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PLEDGE CLASS UPDATE

The pledges of Beta Phi are continuing to make progress towards the infamous Second Review and I week.

The pledge retreat was a huge success and it was one of the few events during early pledging when we were sixteen strong. Jesse Stein took the lead for the retreat by arranging a campout on the now famous "Snake Island" off of Ponce Inlet. Logan Sultenfuss was extremely generous by becoming the captain of the group and using his boat to shuttle the pledges out to the island. Needless to say, the mainstay of the survival gear was the adult beverages accompanied by 200 hot dogs, most of which became deceased in the bonfire. We did learn that Pat McGrath is a certified pyro and the Dave Elert has a "big one". Many of the pledges took turns performing acts of insanity by leaping across the bonfire. Luckily, everyone was mildly successful. The night events were topped by a lengthy and personal discussion about who we are as a pledge class and what we hoped to accomplish over the next few months. Some of the pledges really opened up and it was good to see that a level of trust was beginning to manifest itself. There was very little sleep, but it was well worth it.

In the morning, we gathered the camping gear and cleaned up the island and phoned the captain. While we waited, some of the pledges went for a swim and threw the football and Frisbee around. The entire 24 hours was a great opportunity to get a better understanding of who we are and what we had in common and what we did not.

First Review arrived quickly. Anticipation of the unknown kept the entire class a little on edge. Not knowing what to expect always brings the best and worst out in people. When it was all said and done, thirteen pledges emerged and unfortunately, two did not. It was very difficult for the pledge class to see our comrades get cut. We sincerely hoped that they would consider rushing again in the Spring.

The semester then turned to a more fun event with the social with the Alpha Chi Omega sorority from Stetson University. The night was very exciting with many of the brothers and pledges enjoying the deep and warm personalities of the large number of Alpha Chi Omega sisters present at the house.

Next was many hours of studying for the national exam. The pledge class seemed to do well as expected with all of the pledge brothers coming out of the exam with a positive attitude. The results of the exam will not be posted until after this newsletter has been published but I can say that I believe the pledge class passed the test.

Halloween was held at 600North, which was attended by many of the brothers and pledges. The party was attended by a large part of the Embry-Riddle community and brought wealth to one of the pledges as he won the costume contest as Duff Man from *The Simpsons* providing him with \$600 to boost his finances.

Our House improvement project is underway at the time of this newsletter and it is progressing well. There were early discussions of adding to the existing rear deck, but after further research, it was decided that the scale and price of that project was unrealistic. The bulk of the current project that was approved by House Corp is focused around the perimeter and security lighting at the rear of the building. The pledge class added lighting to the underside of the oak tree and will be replacing the parking lot lighting while simultaneously upgrading the existing wiring. Some of the pledge class members are using the pressure washer to clean and remove much of the mold around the house. It was difficult to get all of the pledges to the house due to scheduling and prior commitments, so it was decided to extend the project over several days to give everyone a chance to help. Kudos, however, must go out to Brad Bennett, Pat McGrath, Dave Elert, Jason "Duffman" Morang, Tyler Carlson and Andrew Fletcher who made a tremendous effort for the pledge class project. When the project is concluded, the additional lighting will add to the security as well as aesthetics to the Sigma Chi House.

The pledges are gearing up for a tough week. There are still many interviews to obtain and much to finish up for the CA project. We have decided that boxed lunches, a trip to the zoo and Kool-Aid just wasn't going to cut it so we are going with another concept. Stay tuned.

As pledges, we are very anxious and eager to get to learn more about ourselves, each other and the other Brothers and Alumni at the Eta Iota Chapter. With an abundance of perseverance and sacrifice, we are confident that we will achieve our goals.

-Pledges Robert Tetrault and Brad Bennett



Pledges at their retreat

As I promised in the last undergraduate E-Newsletter, the paper newsletter is finally completed. After long nights of working on the computer to figure out how to put this newsletter together, I have modeled it to the House Corp. newsletter, and I would like to thank them for letting me use that.

Now down to business. Most of what has been taking place here at 520 S. Ridgewood this semester has been covered in the Consul's article. I would like to touch on a few things that have been left out so far.

Coming up very soon is our Fall White Rose Formal which has been set for November 16th. The event is taking place at the Plaza Resort & Spa which is north of the house on A1A. A final price has been set yet of \$48.00 per person, which includes a meal and three hours of open bar. Any alumni who are interested in coming to White Rose, contact Bret Bergman at 954-214-8610 to make your reservation.

An event that has started up again this year with the pledge program is the Pledge/Alumni Big Brothers. The chapter's executive committee picked 13 alumni to be big brothers for the pledges. The alumni were picked for their continued support and hard work to the chapter. The chapter plans to keep this event as a continuing part of the pledge program. Thank you to those alumni who were chosen to be big brothers.

On a different note, the chapter's finances are doing very well. The chapter has collected 99% of its debt from the brothers and the remaining 1% are on financial contracts. Although dues had to increase this past semester, brothers are paying ahead and staying on top of their bills. Quaestor Brad Vomacka has done an excellent job thus far this semester and has brought the AR's down to a record low!

If anyone has any questions about the chapter, events or this newsletter, feel free to email me anytime with questions or suggestions at nicklez@aol.com. I am always looking for new ways to keep alumni informed of dates and activities happening with the undergraduate chapter. Until next time, In Hoc.

Mark Nicalek

-UPCOMING EVENTS-

November 8-10 – ERAU Homecoming Weekend

November 17-22 – I-Week

December 5 – Last Day of Classes

November 16 – White Rose Formal

November 27-29 – Thanksgiving Break

March 22, 2003 – Eta Iota's 32nd Annual Birthday Celebration



ALUMNI DONATIONS

Once again the undergraduate chapter would like to thank all alumni who continue to financially secure the future of the Eta Iota undergraduate chapter. Contributions are always welcomed and very much so appreciated. The undergrads would also like to thank those brothers part of the **1855 Club**. Current members can be viewed at www.etaiota.org under the fund raising section.



1855 Club Coin

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday to those brothers that celebrate their birthday in November:



11/28 Sid Barling '71
11/30 John Benedict '72
11/11 George G. Cannady , "Guy " '74
11/10 Sean Cantwell '04
11/25 Mike Clohisy , "Skip " '82
11/08 John Clough '83
11/17 Joe Fabiano '95
11/08 Thomas E Falkner , "Tom " '87
11/04 Jeffrey Alan Fejfar , "Shark Bait " '00
11/08 Jude Gableman '99
11/28 Richard Gadd Jr , "Dick " '72
11/29 Gary Granger '90
11/03 David Hines , "Dave " '93
11/28 John Houghtaling '72
11/04 Philip Humbert , "Phil " '80
11/13 Theodore Janiec , "Ted " '85
11/08 Paul Jensen '80
11/28 Thomas Kachmar , "Kach " '77
11/12 Drew Kelley '86
11/24 Dan Kessler '70
11/25 Michael H Mathewson , "Mike " '80
11/02 Terence McCullough , "T " '85
11/20 John McDaniel '73
11/17 Dave McGloon '73
11/12 Ian McVeigh '93
11/24 Jaime Mercado '91
11/13 Paul Mercandetti '72
11/12 Jason Mesteller , "Surgeon " '00

11/16 Thomas E. Nanfelt , "Tom. " '72
11/22 Mark O'Neill '97
11/05 Bernie Palmer '75
11/27 James W Patterson , "Jim " '73
11/25 Michael Pusch , "Mike " '76
11/04 Carmine Respucci '85
11/04 Pete Ripley '73
11/01 Andy Roberts '93
11/07 Gregg Rorabaugh , "Bam Bam " '86
11/04 Jim Schlosser '85
11/24 Jack Sheehan '74
11/13 Bert Somers '89
11/17 Greg Tennille '89
11/24 Michael Tomai , "Daniel San " '05
11/14 Michael Tomlin '94
11/04 Mike Van Hamburg '81
11/06 George Waterman '72
11/06 Paul Williams '71
11/14 Eric Zimmerman ,