



Spring 2003

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

Greetings,

Eta Iota is anxiously awaiting the end of the Spring 2003 Semester and the beginning of a long-awaited summer! Last month, we celebrated the Chapter's 32nd Birthday. Festivities included a pig roast, live band, and an awards banquet at the Inlet Harbor Restaurant. Despite an early visit Friday night from Daytona's finest, the weekend was flawless and thoroughly enjoyable. It was nice seeing everyone that came down, and I hope to see an even larger turnout next year!!

The first weekend in April marked the entrance of the Beta Chi pledge class into our circle. The addition of five Newly Initiated Brothers boosts the Chapter to over 50 members! Recognition goes out to Nick Hoefler (*Magister*) and Richard Winter (*Kustos*) who executed a flawless I-Week and Initiation. On a sadder note, the Beta Omicron pledge class will be graduating and leaving the chapter in a few short weeks. Your presence and leadership will be missed, well, most of you anyway.

Grand Chapter is being held in Orlando this summer; we are all very excited and chapter attendance is expected to be high due to the close proximity of the event. Brent von Stein and I have been elected as the Chapter's delegates to this esteemed event. Another exciting development is that our very own sweetheart, Maggie Hays, has applied for the honor of International Sweetheart. We wish her the best of luck and hope she brings home the prestigious title. Brother von Stein and I hope to carry out the Chapter's wishes towards the many serious issues on the agenda for Grand Chapter. In addition, chapter officer elections were recently held. I enthusiastically await my second term as Fall Consul. The rest of the Fall "head-table" includes Nick Hoefler as Pro Consul and Bret Bergman as Annotator. I would also like to personally congratulate my predecessor Brent von Stein on his election to Magister. Brent has taught me everything I know and is my personal role model; I only hope that I can perform the duties of Consul as well as he did. All the officers are looking forward to the annual Balfour Leadership

Training Workshop. Although I am unsure of what fun activities lay in store for us in Nebraska, I am confident that it will be a productive and pleasurable time.

Embry-Riddle is celebrating the Centennial of Flight with the Wings and Waves air show November 5th – 9th. Eta Iota is planning an eventful Homecoming, so keep that weekend open and plan on hearing more about this in the future. Additionally, it is one of my goals to increase alumni participation throughout upcoming chapter events. Rush week is tentatively scheduled September 15th – 19th; your attendance would be greatly appreciated. Our famous spaghetti dinner will be planned for Friday evening September 19th. Those of you who plan on attending please email me, jeffy_f@hotmail.com, and let me know if you would like to be speaker and say a few words to the future of Eta Iota. While your calendars are

out please mark down I-Week as Sunday November 16th thru Saturday November 22nd. I would like this upcoming Fall Initiation to have a huge turnout and hope that all of you can attend. Expect to receive personal invitations to the event in the near future. I hope everybody has a great summer and look forward to seeing you all in the Fall!!



Brothers "tail gaiting" before a basketball game

In Hoc,
Jeff Feliciano, *Consul*



2003 OFFICERS

CHAPTER ADVISOR
Chuck Bonini
slackercb@hotmail.com

CONSUL
Jeff Feliciano
630-569-1401
jeffy_f@hotmail.com

PRO CONSUL
Jeff Duer
386-353-6544
Jeffrey-Duer@yahoo.com

QUAESTOR
Brad Vomacka
386-316-0317
strech30@hotmail.com

ANNOTATOR
Drew Jones
443-350-1374
slydogg_53@hotmail.com

MAGISTER
Nick Hoefler
386-451-1234
nehoefer@yahoo.com

TRIBUNE
Brent von Stein
386-795-1008
bvonstein@yahoo.com

HOUSE MANAGER
Robert Tetrault
407-694-3012
Robtetro@aol.com

WEBMASTER
Jason Kreisher
610-704-4512
StrikeEagle29@hotmail.com

Visit us online at
www.etaiota.org

QUAESTOR UPDATE

The spring semester went smoothly for our chapter. We continue to do well financially, despite the RMF issues. Our success is made possible by the continued support of HC; they have helped us considerably to absorb the increasing RMF payments. Thanks again.

I tried in vain to put up a web page for alumni to donate back to the chapter directly. We had a few Brothers contribute, thanks a lot guys!! Don't forget, it's never too late to give back. We were able to raise some money for the kids of CMN this year. It wasn't a lot of money, but every bit helps right? We are trying to put together a golf tournament for the Fall during the Homecoming activities. This will hopefully help us raise even more money for CMN and get our name out to the community in a good way. If you are going to be in town during Homecoming in the Fall and wish to golf, keep on the look out for registration information some time this summer. We will hopefully be mailing out postcards with all the registration information on them.

As we end the Spring semester we look forward to a lucrative Summer and Fall. Keep up the good work Brothers.

Guard Well,
Brad Vomacka, *Quaestor*

SWEETHEART UPDATE

Hey there, Brothers of Sigma Chi,

For those of you that don't know me, my name is Maggie Hays. I am the current Sweetheart of Eta Iota. This year has been amazing! Sigma Chi has become an integral part of my life; my relationship with the Brothers is more than just friends they are my family. Recently, I submitted my application for the 28th International Sweetheart of Sigma Chi. Three finalists will be chosen by May 31st to attend Grand Chapter where they will choose the victor. This opportunity would be an unimaginable honor! Having attained such realizations I can only begin to dream of life as the International Sweetheart of Sigma Chi! Special thanks goes out to Julio Varela (*Grand Praetor*), Wendy

Papson (*former International Sweetheart*), and George Ebbs (*President of Embry-Riddle*) for writing me letters of recommendation. Congratulations to Russ Forton, Jim Lambertson, Chris Ashman, Sebastian Ciepiela, and Nick Ficken for becoming new Brothers of Sigma Chi. I wish you guys the best of luck! I Hope you enjoyed your first Chapter Meeting with a sweet treat. 32nd Birthday was a blast; the band was great! Tommy Turfitt did a great job, once again, with the pig roast and the dip I made seemed to disappear pretty quickly.

The Sigma Chi Brothers who came out in support of Sexual Assault Awareness Day made a big impact and their presence was greatly appreciated! Some of the Brothers and I came out to play Ooze Ball (mud Volleyball) to raise money for St. Judes Children Research Hospital. Unfortunately the event was cancelled due to some pretty heavy rain. I decided not to waste the well formed mud pit and proceeded to tackle Chris Koerner! I'm sure the pictures will explain.

I hope to conclude this year with a special dinner followed by a party to kick off the summer. As we return in Fall I hope to continue my honor as Sweetheart and make 2003-2004 just as good, if not better than this year has been! There are many activities planned for the Fall. All of the Brothers should come out showing spirit and dominate Greek Week. White rose will be here before you know it, so guys if you need a date, make sure you tell me early and I will do my best to find a lucky lady to accompany you to this fun evening. If the Brothers are willing to sacrifice a weekend of partying, I would like to plan a weekend retreat. I will let everyone know when I get more details. I hope to get the chance to meet more alumni at the

Maggie Hays, just after White Rose!

spaghetti dinner held every semester for rush. It is always an enjoyable evening filled with speeches, dinner, desserts, and interactions with guys interested in becoming Brothers. Thanks to Brent and I there will be a rush video shown that you must see! Hope to see you all there! Everyone have a GREAT summer!!

Love,
Maggie Hays, Chapter Sweetheart



Maggie Hays & Chris Koerner in the dirt!

PLEDGE CLASS UPDATE

The Pledge class of Beta Chi has just finished their eight-week pledging process with initiation held on Saturday April 5, 2003. We started out in January with eight members of our class. Jon, Chad, Jan, Sebastian (Teabag), Ficken (Punk'd) Chris (Magellan), Jim (Jack Ryan), and myself (Gilligan), we're all very determined to bring one hundred percent of our class into the Fraternity. Sadly, things didn't work out that way as we kept the curse going by having our president as the first to leave us. We moved on with seven.

First review came very quickly, but all seven of us were well prepared. We were lucky to have a very good Magister, Nick Hoefler, who went out of his way to make sure we were all on the right track. Unfortunately, we lost another Brother right before second review. We were now down to six. Another factor that weakened us was that a fellow pledge was unsure of whether or not to continue. He decided to continue pledging with us, but in the end he thought it would be best to de-pledge. We respect him for being his own man, which made his loss easier to cope with. And then there were five.

It was time to get down to business! We volunteered a day to helping Habitat for Humanity. (Just to exemplify how nice the neighborhood is, our project was two blocks behind the house!) We also built three picnic tables for our house improvement project. Hopefully they don't spontaneously combust or fall in the pool too quickly!

In view of tradition, we also went on a pledge class retreat. Ours was a road trip; we were to visit the Constantine Memorial in Atlanta, Georgia. We believed no road trip would be complete without a car full of booze. We were wrong! About an hour into the trip, Jim decided to have a little too much fun. For the rest of the way to Atlanta, we had to stop every twenty minutes to either allow him to vomit, or to clean it out of Ficken's car. Our seven-hour trip became a nine-hour endeavor. We would just like to point out that having open containers in a vehicle and especially consumption of the contents of said container was wrong and now as Sigma Chi's we do not condone it nor do we participate in such unbecoming activity. It was a learning experience and might I say, "Well worth it!!" We created a much stronger bond by working out our differences (lots of yelling) and doing a lot of stupid things. A couple of us earned nicknames through this experience that will be with us for quite a while. We hung out with Atlanta Sigs, "unknowingly" urinated on the TKE house, and got panoramic photos by climbing the Georgia Tech Athletic Dome at four in the morning. It was a fun trip that hopefully next semester's pledge class will enjoy half as much as we did.

I-period was...fun...It was a lot of hard work but we were all determined to put forth every effort into the Fraternity. A week after we had started, we got initiated. Ficken of course bringing up the rear, stands dead last in our class. "Damn it Ficken!"

As we ended one journey, we realize now that another much greater one is before us. A journey that we will be on for the rest of our lives!

In Hoc,
Brother Russ Fortin



Beta Chi Pledge Class at the Constantine Memorial

IN LOVING MEMORY OF RYAN DONLEY

It is difficult for me to fathom that our beloved Ryan Donley became one with the Chapter Eternal over one year ago. April 11, 2002, will always be apart of our hearts and minds. Let this anniversary not bring back the extreme sorrow and mourning that each of us experienced, but let us remember the ideals for which this tremendous man upheld. Bear in mind that it is these same ideals that we strive to uphold each and ever day, by so doing we shall keep a part of our Brother, Ryan, alive forever. Let this remembrance motivate your actions to honor your Brother eternally in all aspects of your life. Please take a moment to pay tribute to our fallen Brother. I have enclosed a poem written by one of our Brothers shortly after the funeral.

Guard Well the Honor of the Cross!
Brent von Stein, *Tribune*

In selfish sorrow, I came upon a steep hill.
I could not see over to the other side.
Waiting patiently at the top were those who had gone before him.
They were calling him.
He rested quietly; sharing a peace with Christ that surpasses all understanding.
Trying to reach him, only breath and sadness filled the void of which I cannot solely bare.
I felt each unwanted tear of days past overtaking my strength.
Trembling were my hands as I placed a white rose where he lay.
The eternal chapter embraced my friend.
The face of God shone brightly overhead.

By Graham Smith – *Written shortly after the White Rose Ceremony*

-MARK YOUR CALENDARS-

April 17 – Last Day of Classes ~ Spring 2003	June 25-29 – Grand Chapter
July 31-August 3 – Balfour Leadership Training Workshop	September 2 – First day of Classes ~ Fall 2003
September 16-19 – Rush Week	September 19 – Spaghetti Dinner!
September 23 – Formal Pledge Ceremony	October 19 – 1 st Review
October 31 – Halloween Party!	November 5-9 – Homecoming Weekend
November 9 – 2 nd Review	November 16-21 – I-Week
December 4 – Last Day of Classes ~ Fall 2003	



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 appreciated. The undergrads would also like to thank those Brothers apart of the **1855 Club**. Current members can be viewed at www.etaiota.org under the fund raising section.



1855 Club Coin



Brothers and their dates at White Rose 2002

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday to those Brothers that celebrate their birthday in April:



04/26 Jesse Adami '94
04/11 Steve Avakian Jr '88
04/02 John Bailey , "Jack " '75
04/19 Chris Beale '75
04/09 Bob Bernard '76
04/09 Larry Biddle '89
04/30 Blair Bogdan '92
04/04 Charles Boivin '73
04/03 J. Scott Bond , "Scott " '72
04/25 Zachariah Bowers , "Zach " '93
04/26 Gregory P. Chase , "Greg " '82
04/03 Paul Clem , "P.C. " '87
04/26 Joe Diana '85
04/05 Anthony Disantis , "Tony " '84
04/06 Jarid Feiertag , "Sperling " '00
04/23 Michael Gehman , "Mike " '93
04/18 Tyrel J Gibson Dr , "Navigator " '04
04/11 Don Haddox '76
04/11 Skip Hartmann '73
04/08 Steve Hartman '80
04/13 Dale Hawkinson '90
04/20 Bill Janak , "Old MacDonald " '04
04/22 Bruce Jones '85
04/01 Drew Jones , "Milton " '04
04/13 Geoff Kaufman '85
04/17 Jeffrey L. Kennedy , "Jeff " '76
04/03 William E. Kingsley III , "Bill " '84
04/16 John Brian Lojko Jr. , "Brian " '97
04/25 William Lower , "Billy " '87
04/01 Todd Ludwig '01

04/04 Berrae Meixsell '81
04/08 Hugh Mills '74
04/07 Dave Ming '99
04/15 Kenneth Monetta , "Kenny " '77
04/09 Albert Montoya , "Tarzan " '93
04/22 Francisco Moreno '72
04/11 Joe Mullarney '82
04/07 Christopher Myatt , "Grimace " '99
04/30 Michael P O'Donnell , "Balboa " '00
04/03 Kenneth Owens , "Ken " '85
04/01 Terry Owens '72
04/08 Jan Paladino '95
04/14 Vinnie Parrinello '77
04/28 Luke Pestow , "Ralphie " '01
04/17 Doug Phifer '83
04/16 James V. Pusateri , "Jim " '74
04/21 Wolfgang Schuster '80
04/16 Ron Sicoli '97
04/29 Jay Smullen '77
04/30 Lem Terrell '81
04/02 Joe Torch '86
04/05 John Valentino '77
04/26 Phil Wheeler Jr '83
04/10 Glenn White '80
04/20 Darren Wilson , "Heebo " '99
04/25 Dave Zabilansky , "Zabs " '81
04/23 George Zinninger III '86
04/17 Vic Ziobro '86