



Eta Iota of Sigma Chi



House Corporation

January/February Newsletter

40th Birthday

The Eta Iota Birthday Committee is continuing to make preparations for the upcoming birthday weekend that is scheduled for March 31st through April 3rd and you should have received your invitations in the mail by now. If you have not received an official invitation, then you most likely do not have an updated address in the HC database. Please take time to update your biography and mailing address as well as any other pertinent information that you would like to share on the website. To date we have received and processed over 200 brother and guest RSVP's so if you have not registered, you still have time to log on to the website (www.etaiota.org) and do so. The BDay Committee has extended the pre February 4th early bird registration prices until the end of February as this gives our pilot brothers a chance to review their upcoming flight schedules and make changes where possible. A heartfelt thank-you to those that have completed and paid through the registration process or through your invitation as this has allowed the BDay Committee to leave house operational funds untouched while securing deposits for the event. We are extremely pleased to have Brother Hugh Mills accept our invitation as the keynote speaker at the Saturday night dinner and look forward to his inspirational words. Hugh was quoted as saying when asked to speak, "I'd be more than happy to talk to my Brothers, especially while wearing a Hawaiian shirt and holding a beer in my hand." Thank you, Hugh!

Undergraduate Finances

When the spring semester began, the New Year realized a host of financial challenges for the undergraduates. However, with a newly elected undergraduate executive committee and with the leadership of Chapter Advisor Brian Lojko and input from HC Treasurer Seth Downs, the undergraduate brothers have created a realistic budget and have been receiving guidance on proper bookkeeping methods and enforcing bylaws that hold brothers accountable for their financial responsibilities. Through these efforts, the undergraduates have managed to collect all of the back rent from the fall semester and have become current through the month of February. They continue to stay focused on the upcoming semester's bills as well as the summer budget and have made significant progress while continuing to exercise fiscal responsibility and prudence.

Florida Tri-Province Workshop

The Brothers of Eta Iota will be hosting the annual Florida Tri-Province Workshop on the campus of ERAU and at the house on February 25 and 26th. Sigma Chi chapters from the



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North, Central and South Florida Provinces along with alumni leaders will be gathering in Daytona Beach to discuss and learn leadership skills and to exchange best practices (FYI, beer pong is not a best practice). The capstone event is a formal dinner and key note speaker Saturday night.

House Projects and Long/Short Term Plans

The HC has made significant progress with establishing workable processes and procedures that identify areas in and around the property for repairs and upgrades. After a final walkthrough of the house in late December, a triage of work has been created. The scope varies from simple repairs to preventative maintenance. Brothers can also now complete an electronic room repair request form located on the Eta Iota website which can be sent directly to the house manager and the building manager for evaluation. In addition to the ongoing maintenance, HC we will be discussing short and long term plans at the annual birthday meeting regarding the property and its improvement. There has been much discussion (since 2008/2009) focusing on 3 basic areas; move and build elsewhere, stay and renovate, or move on campus (yes, you read that correctly) and there will be opportunities to openly discuss each of these options for possible consideration. A structured format will be implemented at the meeting in order to keep the conversation focused and to gain a clear direction for future house plans at the meetings adjournment.

Leadership Opportunities

Per HC bylaws, (3) Board of Trustees (1 vacancy created by Brother Lojko's CA appointment by the Grand Praetor) seats as well as all of the Board of Directors positions will be up for re-election at the annual birthday meeting. Please visit the website and tab to the HC page to download the PDF copy of the by-laws and read about the roles, job descriptions and term lengths as well as eligibility requirements. Take time to consider helping to contribute to the undergraduates as well as helping to grow and develop our house and property through potential leadership opportunities.

New Board Room

Thanks to the Constantine Level 1855 Club (Capital Improvement Fund) donation by Brother Lojko, the old library, a.k.a the game room, a.k.a the place to put all your crap when you are out of storage room is undergoing a complete renovation and is being designated as the "House Board Room" (Lojko's Lounge?). This will give HC and the undergraduates needed meeting space to conduct fraternal business in a professional setting. The room will include a renovated bathroom, (your date or spouse will thank-you for this), new doors, and flooring, and upgraded ceiling and lighting as well as possible WiFi meeting capability. You may want to consider helping furnish the new office with



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chairs or a conference table through an in-kind donation with one of the local office supply stores. Contact Brother Lojko if you can provide assistance.

Note from President

I would like to take a moment to thank all of the brothers who have joined and continue to donate through Eta Iota's 1855 Club, also called the Capital Improvement Fund. Over the last 10 years these donations have totaled over \$100,000.00 and have helped continue to support the efforts of the house corporation in a variety of projects and overall house maintenance and capital improvement. The upcoming birthday will present an opportunity for those that desire to start to donate as there are many projects on the horizon that are going to need significant financial support. Whether we move or stay at our current location, once a clear path to the future is established, milestones will be established and your donations will be more important than ever.

I look forward to seeing all of you in just a few short weeks.

IHSV,

Robert Tetraault, "Mr. Burns" 2002