

Theta Chi Alumni Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 1, Spring 2003



Epsilon Kappa is Alive and Thriving!

by President Ian Toevs #497



With the beginning of the spring semester we installed a new executive board. All of us are very excited to participate in the leadership and development of our chapter. Our first semester in the house was a great success, and this one is shaping up to be even better. We had a total of 49 guys live in the house last fall, however, collectively we decided that 49 was a little more than capacity (we had planned on having 45). This spring we have 47 living in house, which is a much more reasonable number.

To begin this semester we had an all-house retreat at Camp Wooten (near Pomeroy, WA). On our retreat we had some good evaluation time to review and address what we have and have not accomplished as a chapter. We also spent a considerable amount of time setting goals for the future in order to make Epsilon Kappa the best of the best. One of our goals is to apply for the Howard R. Alter Jr. award, which is a national Theta Chi award for outstanding chapters. This has really

motivated us to evaluate each area of our chapter in order to ensure that we have high quality programs and chapter operations up and running. Other goals that we made include building relations with the other Greek fraternities and sororities as well as extending our helping hand to the Residence Halls. Another high priority goal is to excel in grades as a chapter. We have already developed and implemented a study table program this semester, and are working on a reward system for guys that have taken the initiative to work hard at school, this conforming to our motto "Alma mater first and Theta Chi for alma mater."

Theta Chi International Headquarters (IHQ) puts on a number of different conferences each year that are not only very beneficial to us as a chapter, but also help us maintain a good status with the staff at IHQ. I attended the Deranian's President's Conference in Indianapolis over Christmas Break.

This says a lot about EK, we have a commitment to making a very strong foundation

Greek News

by Myles Brown, #500

It is a difficult task to report on the happenings of the Greek community with the space I have been limited to in this article. Here are the major events I considered to be newsworthy.

Last semester, Theta Chi once again ranked in the upper GPA bracket among the University of Idaho fraternities. Other high achieving fraternities who received average GPAs above the all fraternity average and all men's average were Beta Theta Pi, Pi Kappa Alpha, Alpha Gamma Rho, Delta Chi, FarmHouse, Phi Gamma Delta, Sigma Chi, and Delta Tau Delta.

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Almost since school started last fall, the construction on the Kappa Alpha Theta's house has been in constant progress. Theta Chi's on both sleeping porches have been privileged with a preliminary wake call as the hammers start pounding and the skill saws start screaming early in the morning. Workers say that progress is within days of its schedule. The house is due to be finished by early August.

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I learned a lot about chapter operations as well as how to be an effective president. Another conference held each year is the Mid-Year Leadership Challenge MYLC, which is a regional, weekend conference that takes place on a campus with a Theta Chi chapter. Our region's conference was held at the University of Washington. A group of 14 brothers (including most of our E-board) made the weekend trip over to Seattle to participate in the conference. Our delegation made up about one third of the total. UW contributed equally as many. Other chapters in our region made up the final third. In my opinion (and that of IHQ) this says a lot about EK, we have a commitment to making a very strong foundation for all future Theta Chi's at UofI. The final conference of the 2002-2003 school year is this summer. As many of you know, a national convention is held every year, rotating between the "School of Fraternity Practices" on the even numbered years and "Chapter Leadership Convention" on the odd numbered years. We sent two members to the national convention last summer in St. Louis and have a goal of sending five members this summer to Nashville, TN.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW???

In each issue of the Theta Chi newsletter, we will profile a notable alumnus. We're starting with roster number 493 - Ross Gibson. Graduating in 2002 with a degree in Geography, Ross was recently accepted with a position at Theta Chi International Headquarters as a Leadership Expansion Consultant (LEC). Training for the position begins in June. After training, he will do preparatory work for this summer's Chapter Leadership Conference. After this, as a LEC, Gibson will travel across the country to individual chapters advising them on chapter improvement. He will specifically focus on academic and leadership growth.

Gibson is a talented photographer as well. As he travels with Theta Chi, he plans on expanding his photographic portfolio.

At conventions new legislation is voted on. Each chapter has two votes (one from the active chapter and one from the alumni chapter), so it is important that we represent EK well.

I want to thank all of you for your support over the past two years and I hope that as we accumulate addresses and contact information we can increase involvement between alumni and undergraduates. I also would like to extend an invitation and encourage as many of you as possible to come to Moscow for the Founder's Day / general membership meeting weekend. Please know that the house is always open to anyone who would like to come visit or even stay the night.

Fraternally,
Ian Toevs #497



Grant Kinsey places final touches on the sign for the chapter yard.

Attention all Alumni!

Founders Day will be celebrated the weekend of April 26th.

What can you expect? Silver and Gold spring football game will be at seven o'clock the evening of the 25th.

Golfing will be arranged for the morning of the 26th. That afternoon, the general membership meeting will be at 3 o'clock. Following this will be a steak dinner.

Join your brothers this April. Bring your family to Founders Day weekend at the Theta Chi chapter house, located at 620 Elm St. in Moscow. Have questions? Call President Ian Toevs, or Alumni Relations Chair Ben Hornbacher.

Contact information is listed in left column.

We Cannot Live Only for Ourselves

by Jacob Sup, #555

We often speak of brotherhood as a vital aspect of fraternity life. We may make comments that the fraternity cannot exist without it, but the fact is that the fraternity is nothing but brotherhood. I think we often underestimate the word. We try to do so much to promote or enhance it, when in reality, during the disrespectful times, the dishonest times, we do not live in the state of brotherhood. Respect is a given amongst brothers, not something we should feel obligated to do but something that must exist before brotherhood is possible. One brother never lies to another lest, at that instant, he forfeits his brotherhood. One will always show necessary restraint and moderation in his dealings with brothers lest he becomes too self indulged to be in the state of brotherhood. And one brother always shows acceptance and will attempt

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Last October, FarmHouse had the honor of hosting it's 45th anniversary on the University of Idaho campus. Many Alumni attended the event including 15 of the founding fathers. FarmHouse members were encouraged and inspired to meet the men who had preceded them. The anniversary events lasted about a week and consisted of many socials and dinners, ending with a FarmHouse Association meeting. The Association has approved an expenditure of \$50,000 for house improvements. Undergraduate members look forward to enjoying the new improvements.

Just prior to the game on Super Bowl Sunday, Theta Chi and Kappa Delta threw a joint party with the aim of giving back to the community.

to understand his brother in all his beliefs if brotherhood will be possible. This is brotherhood as a state of being rather than a set of actions or events.

During the short time living with our brothers this is what Theta Chi Fraternity will teach us. For members of our fraternity, this state of being, this way of life, is what we strive for. And although we are "members for life" it really is just a short time that we live with the brothers of our fraternity, the organization. It is up to each brother individually to take what he will learn, this state of brotherhood, and apply it to his life and to all of humanity. This will be the true legacy of Theta Chi. To spread brotherhood as a state of being to all we encounter, to be tolerant of other's culture, to show temperance in our exchanges, and to search for truth. This is the true value of our fraternity, to teach us brotherhood so that we can attempt to impact our world by promoting this state of being. ■

You cannot contribute anything to the ideal condition of mind and heart known as Brotherhood, however much you preach, posture, or agree, unless you live it.

-Faith Baldwin

There is a Law that man should love his neighbor as himself. In a few hundred years it should be as natural to mankind as breathing or the upright gait; but if he does not learn it he must perish.

-Alfred Adler

Theta Chis Mark Fineman and Ben Eldger offer a helping hand at January skating philanthropy.



The two Greek chapters sponsored a free skate for any child under 12 years old. There was great participation from both houses and about 35 kids from the community skated for free. ■

I believe in Theta Chi, it's traditions and it's ideals. Born of sturdy manhood, nurtured by resolute men, ennobled by high and sacred purpose, it has taken it's place among the educational institutions of America as a promoter of knowledge, an advancer of culture and a builder of character.

It inspires true friendship: teaches truth, temperance, and tolerance, extols virtue, exacts harmony, and extends a helping hand to all who seek it.

I believe in the primacy of Alma Mater: in the usefulness of my Fraternity, in it's influence and it's accomplishments and I shall do all in my power to perpetuate it's ideals, thereby serving my God, my country and my fellow-man.

Upcoming Events for Alumni

1st Monday of every month.....Alumni night
April 26th, 2003.....Founder's Day celebrated
& General Membership meeting
May 5th 2003.....Alumni Ceremony
August 20-23rd, 2003.....Fall Rush
October 11th, 2003.....Homecoming against
North Texas

Have a question on date, time, or location?
e-mail alumni@uithetachi.com

*Please remember to either send red information update/RSVP post-card from previous mailing, or inform us online at www.uithetachi.com/alumniupdate.htm