



Eta Tau Alumni Association Quarterly Newsletter I

Tuesday March 31st, 2020

Executive Director's Report

Alumni,

Welcome to the first official *Eta Tau Alumni Association Quarterly Newsletter*. In this newsletter you will find all key intel on Eta Tau's alumni base, the active chapter, and housing operations.

In each newsletter you will find the same format; first, you will be briefed on alumni matters from the Executive Director's office. Second, you will receive the current Commander's report on the active chapter. Finally, you will be updated with the Housing Corp's report on the state of the Eta Tau Compound.

To kick things off, the alumni association, in conjunction with the active chapter, has recently cancelled the Annual Alumni Crawfish Boil over concerns for the coronavirus, or COVID-19. The announcement, released via our social media platforms, came as a disappointment to the alumni base as many were looking forward to a great time with old friends in San Marcos. Fortunately, we have the fall Annual Alumni Tailgate to look forward to, so please look out for details at the end of Q2 2020.

In the meantime head over to the website, www.etataualumni.com to keep updated on alumni matters.

We encourage you to follow us on the following social media platforms for updates:

- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/EtaTauAlumni/>
- Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/etataualumni/>
- LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/4561785/>
- Twitter: <https://twitter.com/EtaTauAlumni>

Fraternally,

James Knicker

HT955 & Executive Director

Eta Tau Alumni Association

Commander's Report

Alumni,

This spring semester was interesting to say the least. Roughly halfway through the semester we found it cut short due to the coronavirus, here's what we were able to accomplish beforehand. After College of Chapters in early January I had a plan coming into the semester to improve certain areas of operation. This plan consisted of Eta Tau taking care of business, but also having a good time. I planned for the chapter to focus on academics, ritual, and brotherhood.

At the start and end of chapter I would hold a ritual practice. This practice would focus on a certain part of either the opening or closing of chapter. After several weeks the chapter began to understand the gravity of our ritual. Right before the university moved classes to online for the remainder of the semester, the chapter was working on the Latin and Greek pronunciation of *'In This Sign We Conquer'*. In our final chapter before the shutdown we were able to master it.

It was emphasized at College of Chapters that those chapters who take their ritual seriously often are well-rounded chapters and I found this true. The opening and closing ritual is exactly how I envisioned it when the chapter began practice.

'Eta Tau will be a premier fraternity at Texas State, role models in the community, create leaders, and develop brothers' minds, hearts, and character.'

This vision is put up on the TV of the chapter room before each chapter for all brothers to see and know what we strive for. This vision is referred to at the beginning and end of each meeting after the officers have given their reports.

This semester, 13 candidates picked up their bid for our spring class. With an active chapter of 65 brothers, the chapter is well positioned going into the fall.



Alpha Phi Pledge Class

Eta Tau was honored to name HT190 Will Holder as its new Faculty Advisor. Mr. Holder has returned to San Marcos to teach within the Construction Science program. Mr. Holder also serves on the Housing Corporation and the chapter is grateful to have him on board.



February 8th, 2020 Housing Corp. & Executive Board Meeting

On March 5th, 2020, the chapter performed community service with Texas State's Alpha Xi Delta chapter



Community Service Day Spring 2020

Recently, I started a movement within the chapter for building pride in the property. Every Sunday, 25+ brothers show up to the house and work on some aspect of the property. The impact of this after only two Sundays was incredible. Of course, there is more work to be done but these days aren't mandatory; brothers simply show up because they want to. Brotherhood is at a two and a half year high since I've been in Eta Tau.



Before & After Powerwashing



Before & After Mowing



Before & After Clearing

Finally, Texas State University has moved all education online because of the national COVID-19 pandemic. Therefore, the remaining events this semester have been cancelled. The chapter is aware of safety precautions that need to be met due to the virus. My Executive Board and I are working on next semester's schedule to continue to build our vision.

Fraternally,

Ryan Gryder

HT997 & Commander

Sigma Nu – Eta Tau 157

Housing Corp. President's Report

Alumni,

Thank you for taking the time to read this newsletter, we're excited on the new format and are looking forward to seeing how the alumni association will progress. As always it is our mission at the Housing Corp to provide a safe, functional, and fun property for the chapter to build its brotherhood. On February 8th, 2020 we held a meeting in San Marcos; the chapter's executives were invited to discuss opportunities with the property.

We're pleased to announce that we're current on all bills and that all 10 bedrooms at the compound are rented out. In 2020, we've committed to paying down a minimum of 10% of the mortgage on the property. In 2019, the property received a basketball court, updated Executive House master bath, fire/safety equipment, and general maintenance.

As mentioned above the chapter has been hosting property workdays. We're actively working with the chapter to identify property improvement projects. We're optimistic about the future of the property and hope to see you there.

Please see below for the current Housing Corporation members and contact information.

- John Jenkins – President: jwjtexans02@aol.com 409-267-5214
- Will Holder – Vice President: fwholder3@gmail.com 281-675-3244
- Luther Edwards – Treasurer: howdy@axs4u.net 210-710-8503
- Mike Howard – Secretary: sigmanu330@gmail.com 713-302-7460
- Bruce Inman – Member: texas.realtor@yahoo.com 210-218-6467
- Reagan Glenewinkel – Member: rtrx7@hotmail.com 830-556-2416
- Ed Sheppard – Member: ed.sheppard@gmail.com 512-787-0571
- Joel Brown – Advisor: jjbrown@gvtc.com 830-660-6622
- Brad & Diane Barnard – Advisors
- Phillip Moreno – Chapter Advisor: phillip.moreno@libertymutual.com 281-728-5888

Fraternally,

John Jenkins

HT223 & President

Eta Tau Housing Corp.