



ΘΣΤ Newsletter

Spring Pledge Class 2009

>SMACK!< *Thank you, sir & ma'am! May I have another?*



This spring the House welcomed nine freshmen and sophomores as pledges. We welcome Geoff Bruce (a legacy), Darren Fazzino, Jared Jorgensen,

Briana Kissack, Emma Klomberg, Eve Miller, Roseann Mueller, Matt Muza, and Teresa Zehfus to pledging and look forward to their activation this April.

Theta Sigma Tau Centennial Reunion

The planning for the Centennial Reunion dinner is moving along a little slowly at the moment. The hall, La Sure's of Oshkosh, has been reserved for the chosen date (Sunday, June 27, 2010).

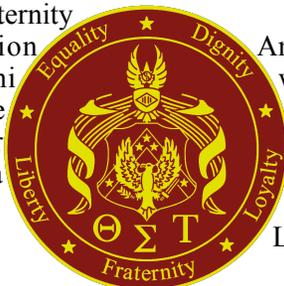
There is a small committee of people working on memory books and "save-the-date" letters were mailed out in January to nearly 450 alumni that we have contact information for.

Otherwise planning is a little slow. As the date gets a little closer, planning for the buffet menu and decorations will begin.

*- Pete Lenz,
Executive Board Chair,
Reunion
Planning Committee*

ALUMNI WEEKEND GAME ROOM - SAT., JUNE 27, 2-4 PM IN SCOTT HALL'S TV LOUNGE

Join current Theta Sigma Tau Fraternity actives for a Guitar Hero competition (complete with prizes) during Alumni Weekend 2009 in Ripon. There will also be opportunities for novice players to try their hand at Guitar Hero, plus we'll have a variety of board games and ping pong.



Donations accepted on behalf of the American Diabetes Association. Refreshments will be provided. Sigma Nu brothers and Tau brothers and sisters, check out current members on campus June 27th! If you have any questions please feel free to contact Alex Momich '11, momicha@ripon.edu or Pete Lenz '89, plenz@uwm.edu.



TAU NOTES

Kathleen Burrall Justic (1992)

Kate married Edward Justic 29-Jun-2009. They live in Brookfield, IL and work in downtown Chicago. Kate is a project scientist and the central region quality assurance coordinator for TRC Environmental.

Jake & Shannon Cipro (2000)

We incorrectly reported the date of their wedding in the previous edition. Jake and Shannon were married 19 - Apr - 2008.

William B. Drake (1963)

William recently celebrated 49 years on the radio since he started at WRPN's predecessor, WCWC on 20-Sep-1959. He has been a morning personality in upstate South Carolina for 32 years, a football and basketball public address announcer for Wofford College for 25 years and a professor of public speaking at the University of South Carolina for 21 years.

Bryan Hall (1993)

"If you're in California and have anything up to a major car disaster (I can only do basic things to engines) I might be able to fix it. Brakes seem to be an specialty of mine since I've had more practice than I'd want. New hobby: Auto mechanics.

Also doing absurd things to vehicles.. street racing, doing turns at retarded speeds."

TAU NOTES (CONTINUED)

C. Richard Johnson (2000)

Dick has opened his own office for the practice of law after retiring from the firm of Foley & Lardner, LLP. His practice focuses on representation of nonprofit and government finance matters, as well as matters of constitutional law.

Tammy Johnson (2004)

In June of 2009 Tammy is moving to Milwaukee to teach in the Milwaukee Public School system.

Reuben A. Kohlman (1935) †

Reuben passed away July 14, 2008. Reuben was a retired salesman for Hawthorn Mellody Dairy. He's survived by one son.

Luke Lockhart (2009)

Luke took two first place awards at the Eau Claire Love Fest Forensics Tournament this winter. Luke took first in both Impromptu Speaking and also in overall points. He also won a state championship in impromptu speaking this semester. Great job, Luke!

Calendar

Spring Activation

Friday, April 24
The Lounge

Spring Formal

Saturday, April 25
Best Western of Ripon, WI

Commencement

Saturday, May 16

Alumni Weekend

June 26 - 28

Summer Party

TBA

Quotes

(when taken out of context...)
PAUL KARP (1999)

"You about done down there?"

To Lexie Natkin (2001) who was checking out books on a bookshelf.

LEXIE NATKIN (2001)

"This one's pretty big, so I'm going to assume that it's yours."

To Paul Karp regarding a sandwich delivery

"No, wait. Nevermind, it's mine."

Moments later

THE NARRATOR ON
CURIOUS GEORGE



"There's nothing like a big stick to get you out of a tight place... or into one."



TAU NOTES (CONTINUED)

Alex Momich (2011)

On Thursday, April 2nd, Alex was accepted into the McNair Scholars program. The McNair Scholars Program is meant to help undergraduates towards graduate school and to eventually earn a PhD through various means, including summer research. He will be working with Professor Timothy Hess of the Mathematics and Computer Science department on statistical analyses over the summer. Alex is a Mathematics major with a focus in statistics; he also is studying Spanish and Sociology as minors. He also is the current Greek Council Representative for the house.

Alexia Natkin (2001)

Lexie is engaged to Lance Lamont. They have not yet set a date for the wedding, but they have purchased a home together in Wauwatosa, WI, so it's pretty much a done deal!

Andrew Rich (2003)

Andrew is getting married to Lauren Burnett on June 17, 2009, at the Royal College of Physicians in Edinburgh, Scotland. Lauren and Andrew met at the University of Edinburgh, where they are both graduate students. Lauren will be earning her M.A. this summer and Andrew hopes to finish up his Ph.D. soon.

TAU NOTES (CONTINUED)

Derek Rivard (1993)

Derek's book, *Blessing the World: Ritual and Lay Piety in Medieval Religion*, published by Catholic University of America Press is now available from your nearest bookstore (or Amazon if you've no local bookstores).

Christy Robinson (2006)

The second book in her series, *The LeFay Chronicles*, titled *Desperate Measures*, has been published. Pick one up and add it to your collection of books by Taus!

K.C. Schmitz (2003)

We previously reported that K.C. had gotten married but we did not have the name of her groom. She is now the wife of Zachary Wilson.

Lue Sengkamnee (1996)

Lue lives in Marathon, WI, where he plays Hmong Flag Football, he's quarterback for his team, named the Goldrush. When he's working to make ends meet he works for 3M Company.

Kenneth J.G. Semon (1967)

Reverend Semon, is now pastor at Holy Faith Episcopalian Church in Santa Fe, NM, after serving in Phoenix for nearly nine years. He also works as a ski instructor in Taos.

TAU NOTES (CONTINUED)

James F. Waugh (1973) †

James passed away Nov. 26, 2008. He is survived by his wife, Wendy Bridges Waugh (1973), and two sons.

Shane Williams (1995) †

We're sad to report that Shane Williams, who was a British exchange student who pledged the House in 1992, passed away 14-Aug-2005.

Dustin Zuelke (2009)

Dustin was accepted into Beta Beta Beta, the National Honor Society for Biology.

More Quotes

"I wasn't even a zygote then."

"Wow, I guess that means I'm practically robbing from the test tube!"

- Lexie Natkin (2001) / Lance Lamont

"So, what you're saying is that you were Hans' pet?!"

Rick Kimpel (1997) to Dan Mattson (1995) regarding Dan having lived with Hans Henker (1992) for over nine months while unemployed.



ENCOURAGEMENT TO DONATE TO THE COLLEGE

Before you accuse me of “working for ‘The Man’” I ask you to hear me out.

Because of the economic situation, the college is a bit short on cash. There are limits on what monies they can access from their endowment and investments and annual fund giving is (understandably) running behind last year.

Ripon is actually doing better than many other colleges in their fund raising and in their ability to weather the storm, but things are tight and will get tighter.

Understandably, alumni donations are down this year... not a lot, but they are down. Donations from those alumni who **can** afford to add a little to their already yearly donations or first time donations from other alumni would help the college a lot.

Why should you donate? Well, I can't give you lots of reasons: the school was expensive and many of us are still paying for the degree we did (or didn't) get. Many alumni may not have had the best of experiences in dealing with the college, either as students or as alumni, and that can factor into the decision making process, too.

I have a little bit of a different reason for encouraging donations:

Tau. Think about this: if Theta Chi (or another national) at Ripon goes away, Ripon Theta Chis will be saddened, but Theta Chi is national and will go on. However, there is only one school in all the country with a chapter of Theta Sigma Tau: Ripon. We're not national and will probably never be because of the logistical and legal issues that this would entail (yes, there has been investigation of this).

This means that the success of the college and the continued existence of the House are intimately tied together. An effort to keep the college afloat is an effort to keep Tau on track for it's bicentennial anniversary in 2110.

During the Spring 2009 Alumni Board meetings I spoke to several people about the fact that Greek alumni are probably more generous and more involved with the college than non-Greek alumni. I am now working with an administration official to research this. My reason for making this effort is to prove to the college that they have a vested interest in their Greeks. Just as we rely upon them, they rely heavily upon us.

So, I would ask those of you who can afford to do so to donate something to Ripon this year, even just \$5 or \$10. I would also

encourage you to indicate to the college that you are doing this in large part because of your ties to Tau and the fact that you found Greek life at Ripon to be rewarding and to have a positive impact upon your post-Ripon life. This will reinforce to the college the importance of the Greek organizations and their alumni to its future success.

So you can give me all the crap you want, but at the end of the day, those of you who really know me know that my support for Ripon is wholly due to my membership in and relationship with Tau. My efforts here and elsewhere are primarily motivated by doing what's best for the continuation and strengthening of the House. I think we all found something of value in the east end of Mapes and doing something to support it, including giving money to the college, just makes sense.

House alumni Pete Lenz (1989), John Ryberg (1967) and senior Dustin Zuelke (2009) are currently members of the Ripon College Alumni Board. Past members associated with Tau include Bruce Davis (1982), Dave Shogren (1984), and probably several alumni whose status as board members is not on our books.

- Pete

THETA SIGMA TAU ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

The association and its website and newsletter exist to continue and strengthen the ties between the members and alumni of Theta Sigma Tau co-ed fraternity at Ripon College. Newsletters are available on an irregular but generally semesterly basis at the website: www.ThetaSigmaTau.org. If a member or alum of the House wishes to have a paper copy mailed to them, the cost is \$1/issue (covering printing, and mailing costs).

Donations to the Alumni Association are always appreciated and may be sent via PayPal (look for links on the website, they're everywhere) or by mail. Checks or money orders should be made out to Peter Lenz and mailed to 118 S. Wilson St., Fredonia, WI, 53021.

Sesame Street and the Economic Crisis by Viola Lenz (2002)

With all the hardships throughout the world lately, one might dream of running away to a happier place. Somewhere safe where these bad things just don't happen. Somewhere like *Sesame Street*, perhaps.

Can you tell me how to get... how to get to...



Wrong! Toss those bus tickets away, people, because even *Sesame Street* is reeling from the recent economic downfalls.

For instance, after years of sub-par service, Grover the Waiter has finally been fired.



Other changes hitting the Street include Count von Count's on-camera behaviors. While claiming the prevalence of computers in today's society as the motivating factor, the Count's new tendency of counting in binary also saves lots of money.



Sesame Street now only needs to buy the numbers one and zero; the other numbers being referred to a nearby temp agency.

Sadly, the savings garnered from the von Count castle aren't enough. In order to cut more costs, medical benefits have suffered across the board. Poor Guy Smiley can no longer afford his anti-depressants, and his work is noticeably suffering.



Many will be disappointed to hear that Bert, of Bert and Ernie fame, has been given "an opportunity to seek alternative employment options." His spirits are up, even though he has already had to sell his beloved bottle cap collection to pay off some undisclosed debt.



Ernie has promised to support his buddy through these trying times. Since *Sesame Street* still does not recognize same-sex partners for health insurance or any other benefits, Ernie is covering many bills out of his own pocket.

Also being laid off are many supplementary characters, including Twiddle Bug #3, five bats, Goldilocks, and the Noodle Family (*Elmo's World*).

Along with the Noodle Family's departure, and due to other fiscal concerns, *Elmo's World* has had to modify their format.



Elmo, like the rest of the world, will simply rely on *Wikipedia* for all of the questions he would have asked the Noodle Family or other guests. In addition, *Elmo's World* has been downsized to *Elmo's One Bedroom Walk-up Studio Apartment*.



Every muppet living on *Sesame Street* seems to be banding together, doing anything necessary to adapt and survive during these tough times.

Hopefully, things will begin to improve soon and people, and muppet alike, will become prosperous once again. Perhaps, before long, things can return to the simpler ways, with no unemployed muppets. The only "homeless" on *Sesame Street* should be Oscar the Grouch, living it up in his garbage can.



* On a slightly different note, Aloysius Snuffleupagus, fondly known as Snuffy, hasn't been seen lately. Many on *Sesame Street*, however, are pretty positive, and insistent, that Snuffy really **was** Big Bird's imaginary friend all along.

