

ΣΝ Spring Newsletter

2009

Alumni Happy Hour

Worthy Recorder Dave Cherry, THI 353 has put together a planned event for what should prove to be a great way to come together, reminisce, catch up, unwind, and meet some of your fellow brothers from different generations of Theta Iota. We hope this will be a great success and welcome any ideas for the future. As plans progress we will let you know. At the time of this newsletter the first event at Flying Saucer in Nashville will already have been held. Upcoming dates, time and locations are:

Toots

Thursday, April 2nd ~ 6:00 p.m.

860 N.W. Broad Street
Murfreesboro, TN
615-898-1301

Memphis Sigma Nu Alumni Club

Thursday May 7th 6:00 p.m.

Flying Saucer

1400 Germantown Pkwy Suite 114
Cordova, TN 38016



Picture above is from first Memphis Alumni HAPPY HOUR! (Russ Henderson, Sam Yokley, Mark Allen, Dave Cherry, Jeremy Channell)

Future dates and locations will be sent via listserv and updated on original Sigma Nu Website.

www.sigmanumtsu.com If you are not already signed up for the email list or you have a new email address you would prefer we used, send updated information to Worthy Recorder Dave Cherry.

Inquires should be made to Dave Cherry at davecherry22@hotmail.com or 731-499-1112.

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Chapter Advisor Update:

Gentlemen:

I am proud to inform you all that the active chapter is as vibrant as ever and excelling in everything from grades to sports to social events. It is rewarding to work with a group of gentlemen that have essentially resurrected a chapter from the ashes to a model chapter that we can all be proud of again. The lessons the active and alumni members have learned from our past have certified our common interest in excelling with honor as we move forward united again as Knights in the Legion of Honor.

The group of gentlemen leading the active chapter is setting the standard for future leaders. They have put emphasis in areas they designate as significant to the fraternity's future success. These gentlemen uphold the values and principles that our founders laid before us 140 years ago.

Thus far this semester, Headquarters staff has met with active members on two separate occasions. Edward Prewitt, area consultant, met with members individually over a three day period then attended their *Smoker Night* at the end of Spring Recruitment. He was very complimentary and impressed with Theta Iota after meeting with chapter officers. In February, five actives and I joined chapter officers from other southeast chapters at *Sigma Nu Institute* held on the campus of Vanderbilt University. After the workshop was done, headquarters staff was very complimentary of the actives' attitudes and ideas. It is apparent the Theta Iota

chapter continues to be one of the best chapters in the southeast and will contend nationally soon enough.

Brandon McNary, Alumni Relations officer and potentially Theta Iota's first Alpha Affiliate, and other actives classified as seniors will be joining us at the March alumni social event held at Toots in Murfreesboro. I encourage alumni to attend every alumni social event, but it is very important for us to have good attendance at this one to show our support for active members and to encourage more interaction between the active and alumni chapters. I look forward to seeing you then.

Fraternally,



Chassen M. Haynes
Sigma Nu Fraternity, Inc.
Theta Iota Chapter
Chapter Advisor
Chassen.haynes@gmail.com
(615) 394-7768
ΘΙ 456 - LTH

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MT Football Season Tickets

We had a great turnout last year and we would like to make it even better for the season to come. Chuck Bibeau, TH1 225, will be organizing the purchase of season tickets this year. Tickets for the season will be \$75 per person. A cushioned seatback can be added to each seat for \$33 a seat, before 7/31. After that, it goes up to \$42.80. To place your order contact Chuck at chuckbibeau@bellsouth.net.

Single-game tickets may be purchased directly through the MT Ticket Office. Locally, their phone number is 615-898-2103 or toll-free at 1-888-YES-MTSU (937-6878).



2009 MIDDLE TENNESSEE FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

Sept. 5 at Clemson
Sept. 12 MEMPHIS
Sept. 19 at Maryland
Sept. 26 OPEN
Oct. 3 *at North Texas
Oct. 10 *FIU
Oct. 17 MISSISSIPPI STATE
Oct. 24 *ARKANSAS STATE
Oct. 31 *at FAU
Nov. 7 *at Louisiana-Monroe Nov. 14 *Louisiana
Nov. 21 *at Troy
Nov. 28 *WESTERN KENTUCKY
Dec. TBA New Orleans Bowl (ESPN2)
Sun Belt Conference Game

Update from Active Chapter

Brothers,
I hope 2009 is off to a great start for everyone. The active chapter has been very busy thus far. Since our re-chartering we've taken the campus by storm, focusing highly on PR, and restoring the image of Theta Iota as a dominant force in Greek Life.

We started off the semester with the initiation of our Fall 2008 candidate class. We initiated 24 men, which brings our chapter to 56 active brothers. Currently, we are in the midst of planning a trip to VMI in May for the initiation of our Spring 2009 candidate class. If you are interested in joining us on our visit to Headquarters, please feel free to contact me to discuss logistics.

We had a very successful Spring Recruitment. Overall recruitment numbers were down, but we finished with a solid 8 man candidate class. In the state of our chapter, we continue to emphasize the importance of bringing in quality rather than quantity. The leaders we are bringing into our Knighthood will recruit others like them; therefore, ensuring a clear pathway to excellence.

We are excelling in campus leadership outside of the fraternity. Brandon McNary was recently elected as the SGA President for the 2009 academic year. We also have 7 brothers that were elected to seats on the SGA Senate. We have various brothers organizing MTSU's first "Big Event" (a community service effort mimicking Texas A&M initiatives). Furthermore, we are in the process of nominating the first Theta

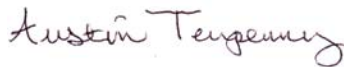
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Iota brother in many years to be honored as an Alpha Affiliate. With numerous accolades and a solid grade point average, we are confident that Brandon McNary will compare competitively with other brothers throughout the nation.

Please feel free to visit the Chapter House when you are in the area. We plan to increase the number of functions between the active and alumni chapters. As plans are resolved, we will send information to you via email through the alumni list server.

We look forward to having a fun and successful semester, and we hope to see you soon!

Fraternally,



Austin Tenpenny
Commander, Sigma Nu Fraternity
Theta Iota Chapter
Middle Tennessee State University
atenpenny3@gmail.com
615.406.7078

A Note to all from AAB President

“It was the best of times; it was the worst of times”

Dickens penned this quote in 1859 but for some reason it was very front-of-mind for me when I sat down to provide an update on the Theta Iota Chapter. This does not come with any secret meaning or any negative tone; it is just the best way I can describe where we sit today. Let me take you a step further ...

It truly is the best of times for Theta Iota. After several dark days, there have been many positive things which are occurring all around us recently. We have seen the Charter come back, which had been the main focus since that fateful night in 2006 when we received the call from Nationals. We have seen an excellent Fall Rush and an above average Spring Rush. We have seen very good grade reports from the gentlemen of

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Theta Iota. We have not had any issues involving school or the outside authorities. The Chapter is beginning to govern itself better when issues arise that do not meet their expectations – something which we have been trying to encourage for years.

The Chapter is running very smoothly right now with continual oversight from our new Commander, Austin Tenpenny, and our new Chapter Advisor, Chassen Haynes. I cannot tell you how pleased I am personally with Austin and his attention to detail and focus on the success of this organization. He truly is a leader of this organization and is involving the remainder of his officer brethren to lay the foundation for the proper re-birth of Theta Iota. Please thank Austin when you have the opportunity.

Oddly enough, it can also be viewed as the worst of times for Alumni and those who have served the Chapter so tirelessly for the past years. There seems to be a good deal of hesitancy and worry around the Chapter. There is a great satisfaction in having the Charter back but there is the worry about what goes on now. Do we fall back into a situation where things occur again that should not? Do we get another call from Nationals like the last one? Will we fall short of our goal to re-claim our rightful spot as one of the elite, a Rock Chapter? We thought all was running smoothly before – are we going to have the same issues arise again?

My answer to you is No and we need you to truly believe this response.

If these questions sound familiar to you or they are just creeping in for the first time, I ask you to believe in the AAB and believe in the men of Theta Iota. As with anything, this is a growing process and there will always be work to do. We need to get some processes and communication methods tightened up. We need to get the officers more comfortable working with their Alumni Advisors. These are small action items, however, when compared to the challenges placed against us previously.

We are building the right foundation. The Alumni Advisory Board is focused on a plentiful present and a fulfilling future for the Theta Iota chapter. All I can ask of you today is to be positive (about the great things we can accomplish) and be ready (for the volunteer opportunities where you can make an impact). Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,
Daniel F Percey II
MB62 / THI241

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Update on Mark Obert Scholarship

On July 4th, 2007, Mark Obert lost his battle to injuries sustained in an automobile accident. As a dedicated candidate of Sigma Nu, Mark exhibited true love toward our fraternity, and it is only fitting that we honor him appropriately.

At our re-chartering banquet in November, Mark's parents, Dennis and Connie Wilson, presented the housing corporation with a \$1,500 donation to help establish the **Mark C Obert Jr. Memorial Sigma Nu Endowed Scholarship**. In addition, Chuck Bibeau ΘĪ 225 recently hosted a fundraising event to benefit the cause, and with the help of over forty actives, alumni and Sigma Nu friends we were able to raise \$3,000.

This sets the stage for reaching the \$10,000 minimum for establishing an endowed scholarship through the MTSU Foundation over the next two and a half years. Once that point is reached the interest from the endowment will be paid annually to the active member who has the most improved GPA.

We're very excited about the chapter's return to campus, and the potential to honor a young man who never had the chance to experience all that we do fraternally and in our daily lives. Along with their gifts to our house fund, twenty-four alumni are currently contributing monthly to help establish Mark's permanent endowment. If you'd like to join us in our efforts please contact Dave Patton at (615) 202-0185 or dpatton@realtracs.com. All donations are tax-deductible and will be updated quarterly on our website.

Any gifts can be made payable to: MTSU Foundation Account #91156
MTSU Development Office – PO Box 109 – Murfreesboro, TN 37132



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COMING SOON!

Alumni Golf Tournament tentative first weekend in June 2009 Indian Hills Golf Club
(Details to follow)

The original www.sigmanumtsu.com website will be updated soon. We have struggled in recent years retaining a webmaster that will keep the website updated and maintained. Michael Haley the creator of our original website and list server has agreed to modernize and keep updated the original website. If anyone sees Michael please give him thanks for being willing to host and keep the website updated for a reduced rate. We will send out an email notification when Michael has completed the update of the website.

Final Thoughts

Brothers,

I will keep this brief. First, I want to offer my personal congratulations to all the men of Theta Iota. I am so proud of the active brothers and candidates who did not quit during the long process of bringing the charter back. I think about the amount of sacrifice that was required to stick it out and put the charter back on the wall. Its' easy to belong to a group with common values and goals when times are great. It takes character to accept responsibility and be willing to do whatever it takes to redeem oneself in the eyes of school and our national headquarters. What you accomplished has never been done in the history of Sigma Nu. For those actives that did not quit and stayed the course, I hope you hold your head high. This proves that if you refuse to **(never give up! never surrender!)**, there are no limits on what can be achieved in life.

I challenge alumni, actives, and candidates to learn from this experience. Apply the principles of love truth and honor in your daily life. You will be amazed at the results.

Preston Steinle
Worthy Commander
Theta Iota 259

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LOVE, TRUTH, HONOR

THIS IS WHERE YOUR VOICE CAN BE HEARD!!
WANT AN ALUMI EVENT, OR WOULD LIKE A CHANGE WITH HOMECOMING EVENTS, GOT A
NEW JOB, MOVING, SPECIAL EVENT??
PLEASE LET US KNOW.
PLACE YOUR COMMENTS HERE AND DROP OFF AT THE HOUSE AT ANYTIME, OR MAIL TO:

Theta Iota Alumni Club
1301 East Main Street
MTSU P.O. Box 686
Murfreesboro, TN 37132-0001

OR

Email: Alumni Worthy Commander Preston Steinle @ pres259@yahoo.com

THE ΣΝ HOUSE

495 N. Rutherford Blvd.
House #8
Murfreesboro, TN 3713
House Phone: 61 .494.8605

Alumni Club

Theta Iota Alumni Chapter
1301 East Main Street
MTSU P.O. Box 686
Murfreesboro, TN 37132-0001

Directions: From Nashville, take I-24 east to exit 81B (Church St.) Take a right onto S. Rutherford Blvd.
Follow down for 5 miles. Greek Row will be on your left. Turn left at the second entrance. Sigma Nu house will
be the last house on the North end.
(Face Greek Row last house on the right)

