



SUMMER 2012

# Eta Rho NEWS



A PUBLICATION OF THE ETA RHO CHAPTER OF SIGMA NU

## NEWS AND UPDATES CONCERNING "ETA RHO FOR LIFE"

I'm delighted to inform everyone that Eta Rho "For Life" is now underway, and the enthusiasm for it is high. For those of you unfamiliar with ERFL, there have been discussions for some time that the relationships we build in pursuit of brotherhood last longer than four years, that the benefits of brotherhood last a lifetime, and that we need to accept and structure ourselves to capitalize on that. The ERFL mission statement explains it simply:

### "ETA RHO FOR LIFE"

*Our Brotherhood was born during our college years, but its essence as a life experience enriched with life long relationships becomes more evident as we grow older. We, the life members of Eta Rho, should embrace this truth and cultivate its potential by...*

*...enhancing foremost the social and intellectual values inherent to Brotherhood beyond the college experience, thus focusing on the its lifetime virtues for all ages, and...*

*...recognizing the vested interest we have in selecting, nurturing, and inspiring the young men that enter our Brotherhood during the formative years of college, thus securing the integrity and vitality of Eta Rho for future generations.*

Given the two areas of focus defined in the mission statement, we have had three meetings since the first of the year, and have established the following,

### THE MENTORING PROGRAM

We plan to make it a practice in our chapter to assign each new active an alumni "Mentor Brother." Details of the role of the Mentor Brother, and how they will be assigned have been discussed and documented, but basically the goal in this new relationship is to instill in each active an understanding that in addition to the fun times that go with the fraternity experience, there are also responsibilities, to themselves and their life long Brothers, and to the

enrichment and integrity of Eta Rho as a life long experience. During the Active Brother's senior year, the Mentor Brother will help him with plans for his future vocation and relocating by putting him in touch with Alumni of like vocations and locations that can give him advice and help him get started in his new career and life after college.

Thought has been given to how to do this effectively without it being a time or emotional burden on either brother. We've appointed an Overseeing Committee of three: Drew Logsdon, Andrew Rash, and myself, plus two alternates: Dave Roberts and Rick Wood to head up this effort. Much of the task of this committee will be to monitor the process of this program and improve on its results. Mentor Brothers can be any age, and reside anywhere.

### WE NEED VOLUNTEERS FOR MENTOR BROTHERS

We realize that its difficult to commit to this role without knowing what it entails, but we hope to get a list of names of those who MIGHT be interested, so that we can give you a clearer idea of what it involves. Then you can make a decision. The Spring pledge class currently has six members. It will be the role of the Overseeing Committee to assign Mentor Brothers to each new active based on a criteria that has been discussed. Assuming we have 15 volunteers, you can see that most will not receive an active or "mentee" brother. These volunteers will go back on the list to be assigned with the next semester's new actives.

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### UPCOMING GRADUATES

In addition, we are committed to helping current graduates with new careers and relocating. This will be the task of the two committee alternates. Obviously, they will not be assigned Mentor Brothers, but until the program is thoroughly phased in through pledge classes, there will be no graduates left behind.

Currently, these five men will graduate this spring. Based on the bios provided, if any alumni thinks he might be able to help these young brothers with their aspirations, please let us hear from you.

### SOCIAL EVENT COMMITTEE

*(Time for the old guys to party)*

Addressing the second goal of ERFL, "enhancing foremost the social and intellectual values inherent to Brotherhood", we've got some plans coming together for that too.

HP numbers are expected to reach 1000 within a year or so, which means we're scattered everywhere. Rough numbers indicate that we have around 65 in Florida, 45 in Indiana and Illinois, 21 in Texas, 23 in the Northeast and 26 on the West Coast. In Kentucky and Tennessee, we have over 500.

At this point, our goal is to plan one large weekend event each year, in various locations around the country. To do this, we will divide the country into six or so regions, based on the concentrations of our membership, and appoint or elect two or three brothers in each region to plan and head up their event. Thus each region will have an event every five or six years. Every fifth year, the regional event will be pre-empted by our current practice of celebrating Western's homecoming.

The Social Event Committee will oversee the program described above. It will consist of three appointed members to be determined at our upcoming Spring meeting.

### SO PUT ON YOUR THINKING CAPS, AND LET US HEAR FROM YOU!

Every generation of Eta Rho can claim a Social Chairman that had a real knack for putting together good times for all of us, and enjoyed the process. Other guys may have never had the role, but are naturals none the less. Be thinking about Brothers that would wear these hats well, or volunteer if its a job that interests you. There's no limit to what social events we might come up with, sporting events, Ski trips, Deep sea fishing, Mountain retreats. With a little effort, we can have a great and rewarding time with this.



## Eta Rho and the 21st Century

There is no doubt that the "Social Media" bug has bitten our Eta Rho chapter! We're seeing a boom in online interaction between brothers, wives, little sisters, and friends of Eta Rho. As someone who was born in this new generation of technology, it excites me to watch our fraternity brothers share stories and photos outside of the fall homecoming activities and spring golf outings. More importantly, it gives everyone an opportunity to follow the exciting news and happenings of our collegiate brothers.

Some of the most recent changes you'll be seeing in the upcoming year will be related to official alumni communication. Now that we've finished up our fundraising campaign through Pennington Company, we've since moved our alumni database and record keeping over to the WKU Alumni Association. They will be providing us with record keeping, email communication, and annual newsletter creation and production. This transition will help keep our records centralized and more accurate. In addition, their office will be handling record keeping of dues, donations, and gifts towards the scholastic scholarships and housing funds. Utilizing this free service from WKU is crucial to maintaining our chapter's communications opening up more room for alumni events and celebrations. WKU Alumni Association also provides the opportunity for you to update your information through their website or through a link on the EtaRho.org website.

Help me in thanking the WKU Alumni Association for offering this outstanding service to our chapter.



Fraternally,  
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## GAMMA OMEGA PLEDGE CLASS SPRING 2012

Joel Skipworth  
Hartford, KY

George Wiley  
Elizabethtown, KY

Jordan Corona  
Radcliff, KY

Nicholas Courtney  
Radcliff, KY

Cameron Johnson  
Vine Grove, KY



## Eta Rho's Commitment to Excellence

Sigma Nu's Regent-Elect, Charlie Eitel, said at the 2012 Sigma Nu College of Chapters, "We are going on a journey. We will carry the wounded, but we can't wait on the stragglers." This quote has been a motto of this year's Executive Council, as we have strived to continue the improvement of Eta Rho. At the officer transition retreat in January the executive council resolved that the vision of Eta Rho would be "To strive for excellence through brotherhood, accountability, and social activities by challenging each other daily."

The chapter's involvement in campus continues to be one of our strong suits. Last fall we placed 1st in numerous other Greek organization's philanthropy events and during Homecoming 2011 we were paired with the ladies of Alpha Delta Pi, where we won 1st place for our float and 1st place overall in Homecoming.

This year the chapter has been very philanthropically involved in the community. In the fall semester Sigma Nu, along with the gentlemen of Sigma Chi and the ladies of Phi Mu, hosted our annual charity golf scramble at Crosswinds Golf Course, raising over \$5,000 for the Children's Miracle Network Hospitals. More recently the chapter has hosted a successful philanthropy week entitled "Snake Daze."

This summer Sigma Nu's current biennium will end, which means that another Grand Chapter is upon us. We are looking forward to being in Dallas this July for the 65th Grand Chapter.

I am also proud to say that we will be returning to The Rock this semester, as we make our way to Lexington, Virginia on our pilgrimage to headquarters. Taking this trip each semester has become a new tradition within the chapter, and everyone who makes the trip will attest to the "Sigma Nu High" that you have once you have touched The Rock, or stood on the parade grounds where our three founders took their oath. Our next pilgrimage is scheduled for April 27-29, and if you are interested in joining us on our journey to The Rock please let us know.

As a final note, we are very thankful to all of our wonderful alumni family for their continual support for Eta Rho, and our brothers are very excited to see the beginnings of Eta Rho For Life.



Fraternally,  
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Commander  
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**Homecoming is  
Saturday, October 20th, 2012**  
against the Louisiana-Monroe Warhawks.  
Kickoff is 3pm. Be on the lookout for additional  
information this fall. More information can be  
found at [www.WKU.edu](http://www.WKU.edu).

# Eta Rho NEWS



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