



Sigma Tau Chi

Alumni Association, Inc.



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www.sigmatauchi.org

The Presidents Corner



Changing Times, Busy Times

Brothers, as we begin the summer months, there are many things going on that will affect Sigma Tau Chi and the House. STCAA has been busy addressing a number of things these last few months and its

appropriate to bring everyone up to speed.

First, we had a very successful business meeting in Hancock, NY on May 1 attended by six active brothers, ten alumni, and one White Rose Queen. The meeting is detailed herein by another. I'll reiterate one portion of the meeting by stating that actives and alumni agreed on a new rental rate and payment schedule going into the fall 2004 semester. We still face challenges filling the House. However, with prudent cooperation with the active brothers committing to move into the House and adherence to the payment schedule, we should be in decent financial shape.

The "to-do list" for the House does not seem to shrink. However, a quick look back at our accomplishments shows many core improvements such as two bathrooms, water heating system, and furnace repairs. We hope to turn the corner at some point on addressing some cosmetic upgrades so we can all visually appreciate our hard work and contributions. The window donation program is a great success having completed 61 of 90 windows. We have been temporarily slowed because we want to do the windows on the north and east walls of the dance/dining room. We have donations to do one section of the north wall but, all three need to be done at the same time because the interior wall will need to be done at the same time as well. I am confident we'll move on that soon. This summer we are upgrading bedroom doors and placing a locked security door on the rear entrance off the parking lot. Frank Murano, STCAA treasurer, introduced a proposal to completely renovate the third floor to include a separate heating system, bathroom, and 4 to 5 bedrooms. Continued on page 4

Vice president's Letter



A Look To The Future

Another year has past and another year of tremendous growth and achievements for Sigma Tau Chi and the Alumni Association. The annual Golf tournament and Alumni weekend were a great successes, the window

donation program has provided window replacement for over 90% of the windows in the house. Once again the involvement of the STCAA has proved to be a excellent tool for the actives for receiving advice on pledging, finances, house maintenance and fraternity growth. In the next year, myself and others will be involved in a few projects that will help the Sigma Tau Chi fraternity and the STCAA grow. One of the major things that is in the works is to do a complete makeover of the web site. The web site has proven to be a great way to advertise events and to keep in contact with thousands of Sigma Tau Chi Brothers. Our major goal for the revamp of the web site, is not only to provide brothers with valuable information, but also to have it be used as a marketing tool for prospective brothers. It will be a place that prospective can go and get answers to their questions and also learn more about the fraternity and what it can offer to them. Many perspectives don't know the vast number of offerings the fraternity can bring to them during college and when they leave college. Some of these offerings include, one hell of a social atmosphere, life long friendships, learning about finances, learning how to managing your time, understanding how business meetings are held and job networking. Today the first place people go to find information about companies and organizations is the internet that is why we are going to focus a lot of time and effort to make a site that is beneficial not only to current brothers but also to perspective brothers. This site can be used right along with rushing to provide a great rushing strategy. Continued on page 4

Take Back Vermont



From Left to right: Mike Gorman (rookie), Barrie Gorman, Gerry Hendershot, Tony Carnevale, Ken Russack, Frank Molinari (nice gesture), Ron Ramsden, Rory Carrigan, Tony Dentino, Steve Certa, Missing (Paul Zoekler).

The Ski Weekend:

For the past 12 or so years, its hard to remember, a core group of brothers, friends of brothers, brothers of brothers and recently, sons of brothers have assembled in Vermont for what has been commonly called the Ski Weekend. We started this venture in Lake Placid, moved to Sugarbush, Killington and most recently returned to Sugarbush. The house we rented this last spring was grand. I usually assure the real estate broker that its simply a family get together, not a full blown fraternity weekend. We've been thrown out of several bars, but fortunately the house contacts remain sound.

Brothers Gerry Hendershot, Barrie Gorman, Paul Zoekler and Steve Certa have never missed a year. My 4 brothers, "the Cossacks" have also been present. Brothers Murano, Proctor, Dentino, Carrigan, Ramsden, Carnevale, Ball, Molinari, (did I forget anyone??) have all made appearances. Some of us still ski. Many of us don't. Activities are planned that usually involve road trips around Vermont in search of cold beer and pool tables. Snow shoeing, cross-country skiing, smoking cigars, and watching home movies are also part of the weekend. Continued on Page 2

This year's Hancock planning meeting was my first experience attending this event, and I must say I was impressed with the depth of discussions, topics covered and 'critical mass' of attendees representing both the STCAA and the active community.

For those who may be unfamiliar with this planning meeting, it's an annual forum comprised of STCAA and active officers and members who meet to plan fraternity business. The goals are straightforward:

Review any/all issues affecting the fraternity and discuss solutions.

Review financial and organizational status of the fraternity and the STCAA.

Establish a plan for the coming year for the betterment of the fraternity and the STCAA and its assets (the house).

This year's meeting covered a lot of ground and was well attended with almost 20 actives and STCAA alumni in attendance (our largest Hancock to date.) The topics covered varied but some of the key discussions focused on:

Financial review (House title status, overhead and bills, rent status, STCAA cash flow, etc.)

House improvements report (including new 3rd floor renovation plan)

House security and safety

Improving active recruiting numbers

Improving fraternity benefits for members (more mentoring and professional skill development)

Increase numbers living in the house

Alumni weekend planning

Community and school relations and fraternity image building

These were just some of the topics covered in the meeting. Many excellent ideas were discussed and responsibilities were assigned for various initiatives to both actives and alumni to develop together. Many 'regulars' who have attended past meetings stated this was our best and most productive meeting yet. I hold that same enthusiasm. To sum up my perspective, the meeting was extremely valuable for the following reasons:

We covered a wide range of topics and issues all important matters to the fraternity, its assets, with a focus on sustaining and improving the viability of the organization.

I met a core group of active brothers who were genuinely enthusiastic and focused on improving the fraternity.

Lastly, and most importantly was the forum itself. We had brothers spanning numerous generations of ETX from the current actives to our strong contingent of '60's brethren, all focused and working together towards common goals and betterment of the fraternity.

Overall, the meeting was very encouraging. The issues we face are challenging. The discussions were constructive and insightful... And we have the right people within the alumni and active communities to implement action and build on our successes. YIB, Chris Bartow, F'89



Ski Weekend (cont.)

The weekend stands for many of us an opportunity to rekindle old friendships, and spend quality time with one another. We've come to realize that little has changed since our time at Oswego. For many of us, that is over 30 years ago. We continue to tell stories about our past glory days and laugh as if they happened yesterday. Bucklands and Nunzis are still topics of discussion as well as the belles of the sororities. Many of you whom we haven't seen for several years are topics of our conversations welcome anyone interested in spending a weekend in Vermont to look for an announcement sometime in the fall. The HenderYacht (Gerry's truck) ride from Rochester is worth the price of admission. Take care. YIB, Ken Russack.. (some time in the early seventies). Addendum from Gerry Hendershot....Kenny, you pledged with me.

Houseland Security

For those of you that will be traveling to the "House of Blue" this summer please be aware of a recent change in house security. At the request of the active brothers all the house doors will be locked 24/7 with keys issued to the residing brothers. To gain access please make arrangements with someone living in the house this summer or get there early and catch someone on the fly. There is no longer a communal pay phone in the house. We hope this does not discourage you from stopping by but it does keep the valuables in house a lot safer.



Can You Name This once famous Oswego Landmark?

See page 4 for the answer



Up-Coming Events

- ➡ Harborfest 2004
July 22-25
- ➡ 5 Th Annual Alumni
Weekend, Oct 1-4 2004

The House of BLUE

Gett'er Done..



The House of Blue continues to look better each year, slowly but surely, thanks to efforts like the Window Donation Program and continuing alumni contributions.

The south (Bronson Street) side now has all new windows, as does the Montcalm Street side, and most of the other exposures. The main remaining area is the dance floor. The ritual of putting up insulation and plastic to keep winter at bay is becoming a thing of the past that I'm sure no one will miss. Four high quality skylights that complement the new roof have been installed in several of the third floor rooms. Speaking of winter, this past January certainly was one of the worst Oswego has seen in a while! Brutal temperatures, combined with the wind, made it a challenge to keep the plumbing in some areas from freezing. For a few nights it was difficult to keep the PW room much above 32 degrees! The end of January was topped off with a storm that shut down the college for the first time in many years, and managed to dump 4-5 feet of snow in the land of Oz.

The best time of the year is upon us now, and this summer we have awarded a contract to paint much of the trim on the main house. This should be completed before Harborfest, and make the exterior look that much better. Neighbors continue to comment that the house looks a little better each day, which is always encouraging.

As we have done in the past, we had a clean-up/fix-up day at the house on Saturday, July 10th, 2 weeks before Harborfest. We had a focus on exterior projects. The area north of the tennis court has been cleaned up, and proved again last year to be the best viewing for the fireworks. (The roof continues to be off-limits!) So plan to join us for the day to make our House of Blue a little better.

Wes Proctor 'S68 House Restoration Committee



Harborfest 2004 will soon be upon us (July 22-25th), and one of the best places in town to gather is at the House of Blue at 8 Montcalm St. Active brothers and alumni from all the years will be convening at the house and catching up on the latest and meeting old friends. If you haven't been to HARBORFEST yet please take advantage of this great festival and revisit the Sig Tau house and hang with brothers old and new. If you have been to the fest you know what a great time it is, literally "in our

own back yard". The backyard and the old tennis court are one of the best venues in town for watching the great fireworks. Hope to see you there. HARBORFEST HEADS UP:

We will be conducting a work day July 10th to help get the yard in shape, so come if you can. Literally tens of thousands of people walk by the "tool shed" and admire one of the grandest houses in Oswego. We want to be looking good so spend a day and help with the clean up (beer is always available).

Again this year, we ask everyone to stay off the roofs during the Harborfest weekend. We have done a lot of work on the old roof and we want everyone to have a safe weekend. The embankment north of the tennis court has been cleaned up, and offers much better fireworks viewing than the roof. The breakwall fireworks can be seen more clearly from this vantage point and it's a lot shorter fall.

We ask that you respect the house, the property, and the neighbors, and pick up after yourselves as best you can. We want every brother to be able to return year after year to enjoy this special event! Harbor masters Gorman 72, Proctor 'S68

\$TX By the Numbers..... The treasurer's Report

The year 2003 and thus far 2004 have continued to show the financial support of our alumni association. Our alumni dues donations in 2003 were \$7474 from 77 alumni donors, down \$2606 from the previous year's total. So far this year we have brought in another \$4950 in dues from 47 alumni. Lets keep it going for this year. Alumni Weekend last fall netted another \$2055. Our annual golf tournament this June netted us another \$2002. The formula is simple: the more \$\$ we receive from all of you, the more renovations that can be done.

In addition to our annual dues contributions, the Window Donation Program, as of this publication, 64 windows and one sky light have been paid for. The rest of the common windows in the house are next on our list for replacement (excluding those in the chapel, which are already done). If you are interested in donating a window of your choice, I can send you a list of which ones are left to replace (41) and the pricing. A nameplate will be placed on each window in your behalf.

Already in 2003 we are off to a great start. The alumni database has grown to new heights, currently consisting of 767 names, with more being added every day. .

HERE IS HOW THE MONEY WAS SPENT BETWEEN 2/18/04 and 7/07/04*

Gutter Coating.....	120
Electrical Supplies&Service.....	342
House Repairs Exterior.....	260
Furnace Repair Parts & Labor	502
Snow Removal.....	100
Website Annual costs.....	119
New Locks and Doors.....	5717
New Skylights 3 rd floor	1987
New Roofs Montcalm St Overhangs	3766
Postage for newsletter.....	239

Total expenses.....\$13,152

*This does not include the \$14,154 spent on new windows since the Window Donation Program started.

In case you are wondering about the alumni dues bills, we are currently mailing them out from my office. You will receive a bill a year from the date you last paid your dues. Please remember that all your donations go to the house improvements, and not the day-to-day costs to run the house. All of those bills are paid from the Active Brothers' rent payments.

As a constant reminder, please make sure to send your change of address, or that of any brother not currently receiving our newsletter, to myself. For contact updates or any financial information, please feel free to contact me at (800) 564-3773 ext. 204, via email at frank@lrmp.com, or through the mail at 212 Harwood Circle, Rochester, NY 14625.

Everyone's donations and generosity over the last five years has made me proud to be a Sig Tau Brother!!!!

-YIB, Frank S. Murano, 'S68Treasurer, STCAA



SIGMA TAU CHI
Oswego State University

The Presidents Corner (cont.)

The transfer of the House ownership from the active corporation to the alumni corporation should be complete with a new deed issued by the time you receive this newsletter. Further, the Perez loan has been reduced to a balance of \$20,000.

Gary Maher S '80 , Frank Murano S '68, Seth Thibault S '00, and I attended a meeting with Mike Paestella, SUNY Oswego Asst. Dir. of Campus Life for Student Organization Services on June 1. He was very informative about upcoming initiatives on the part of the SUNY system, local law enforcement and campus security relative to Greek hazing and under 21 alcohol consumption at Greek sponsored events. These initiatives will necessitate some changes for our active brothers. Sigma Tau Chi remains a leader in the Greek community at SUNY Oswego and STCAA plays a major role. Our active brothers have an opportunity to be proactive in building a stronger relationship with the college and our neighbors while improving the image of our brotherhood. Historically Sigma Tau Chi has been primarily a social organization. The time has come to devote some attention to community service. White Rose Queen, Kristen Aust, is assisting with ideas in this area and volunteered to seek and secure the right contacts in Oswego to make sure our active brothers get the maximum positive press for community service done.

I have had the personal advantage of historical perspective in my involvement with STCAA since 1999 relative to traditions within the fraternity. I have met and dealt with brothers of many generations and can report to you that traditions you think are and will continue to be timeless somehow change over time. Some traditions fade completely, while others are morphed to varying degrees, and new traditions surface. The point is, we need to take a hard look at our present traditions, decide what's good, draw on past experience, and look to the future to create a fraternal environment that will attract quality brothers.

Gerry Hendershot, S,69 President STCAA

Alumni of the year

Each year the active brother community selects an "alumni of the year". The brothers select an individual who they feel has supported the fraternity in a special way. Over the years alumni have been selected for the many hours of service to the fraternity in the areas of house restoration and maintenance, legal support, finance management and hard work in ensuring the future of Sigma Tau Chi.

Recipients of this prestigious award are:

Gerry Hendershot, 2000.

Wes Proctor, 2001.

Whitey (Michael) Caldwell, 2002.

Frank Marano, 2003.

If you see these brother give them a thank you for their support of the active brothers and dedication to the future of Sig Tau.

Vice president's Letter (cont.)

The second initiative we would like to complete this year is to change the format of Alumni weekend to create a weekend that would keep the Alumni that come ever year and generate some new faces during the weekend. This years ALUMNI WEEKEND is October 1-2. We are still planning this great weekend but a few things we have planned are a Texas Hold'em Poker Tournament, Live Music, A Grand Feast, around the world mixer with Sorority's and more. There will more details coming soon but reserve your spot today for the weekend.

As I stated last year " As my personal goal, I would like to see many more brothers from the 90's involved". I understand financial donations can be hard but other things can be done to get involved. The alumni association is always looking for volunteers to help out. Also, getting together with a bunch of people from your generation and attending the annual golf tournaments, alumni weekend and annual Hancock meeting would be an amazing time for you and a great benefit to Sigma Tau Chi". We did get more involvement from brothers from different generations but there are still many more that should think about attending an alumni event. I hope to see many of you in the year to come.

YIB, Nick Drogo Sp99

5th Annual Alumni Weekend October 1st and 2nd, 2004

The Fifth annual alumni weekend is scheduled for the 1st and 2nd of October this year. We hope that you will plan on attending this year. This weekend is a great opportunity to visit the house, party like you used to, and see old friends and brothers. Each year the weekend has been a great success. The highlights include a gourmet meal served at the house prepared by several professional chiefs. A beer blast on Friday night, golf on Saturday Morning, A brothers only meeting in the chapel, a DJ and dancing all night long after dinner and a new addition this year; a Texas hold'en poker tournament on Saturday afternoon with half of the profits to benefit the alumni association

This event is also a big fund raiser for the alumni association and last year raised \$1500.00 for house restoration and improvements and funding of the alumni association many projects. Please do plan on attending. Call or E-mail an old brother, a buddy or a pledge class member and encourage them to meet you at the house. Wives and Significant others are encouraged to come and have had a great time at the past. The success of this event and future operating funds depend on you ATTENDING. Please see the attached Registration form on the last page of the news letter.

Newsletter Feedback

If you would like to suggest changes to the newsletter please let us know. Is once a year enough? How could the newsletter better serve the fraternity as a whole? Please forward any suggestion, corrections or comments to Barrie Gorman at bgorman@entergy.com or at the office 315-593-5740



SIGMA TAU CHI
Oswego State University

Landmark

The famous land mark in the photo is BUCKLAND'S bar which was torn down in 1998 and is now the site of a McDonald's

FIFTH ANNUAL ALUMNI WEEKEND AT THE TOOL SHED

The fifth annual alumni weekend is scheduled for October 1 & 2, 2004. The first four alumni weekends were a resounding success. What make these weekends so special is YOU, the people who attend. So, mark your calendars, get on the phone, or email & encourage your old buddies, wives and/or significant others to attend.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 1:

8:00 pm - ??? Beer Blast at the **HOUSE**

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2:

10:00 am Golf for the **DUFFERS**

1:00 pm **TEXAS HOLD'EM POKER TOURNAMENT** at the house

4:00 pm - 4:45 pm Brother only update meeting in the Chapel for the **ACTIVES & ALUMNI**

5:00 pm - 7:30 pm **International** Cuisine prepared by a **PROFESSIONAL CHEF**

8:00 pm - 1:00 am **DJ, MUSIC & DANCING**

9:30 pm Distribution of favors and raffle drawing

TICKET INFORMATION:

Advance tickets (payments received by 9/24) \$65.00 per person, \$120.00 if attending with a guest or spouse. After 9/24 **ALL** tickets are \$85.00 per person. To make your reservation for this incredible weekend, return the form below with a check payable to STCAA. Mail to Gerry Hendershot, 609 McKinley St., East Rochester, NY 14445-2115. Visa & MasterCard, call Frank (**THE BANK**) Murano at 1-800-564-3773.

**ADVANCE TICKET SALE IS CRITICAL TO THE FINANCIAL SUUCCESS OF THE WEEKEND,
SO REGISTER EARLY!!!!!!**

ALUMNI WEEKEND SIGN-UP

Brother Name: _____ Pledge Class: _____

Address: _____

_____ Zip +4: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____ Fax _____

Email: _____

Number of Guests attending with you: _____ Relation: _____

Spending the night in town?? _____ Where do you plan to stay? _____

Amount of \$\$ enclosed _____ For _____ attendees

Mail to: **Gerry Hendershot**
609 McKinley St.,
East Rochester, NY 14445-2115.