

Theta Sigma Tau /
Sigma Nu
Alumni Newsletter
Issue 47, Oct. 1

The Tau Tipper

Theta Sigma Tau/Sigma Nu Alumni Association -- 414-962-1469

Mapes Renovations Complete



"Which goes to show you that evil can be dealt with but really annoying is unforgivable."

- 1LT George Johnson (00);
re: REALLY irritating people

"You mean I spent five and a half months in Qatar so that Rob Kinyon can breed?"

- 1LT George Johnson (00)

Over the summer of 2003, Ripon College renovated our old college home. Many of the renovations were simple facelifts of various elements of the building, but a few significant changes were made.

From the outside, apart from the new trim to the building, there are two notable changes. The first is that doors have been added to the lounges (exactly where they used to be before they were walled up in the early 80s). In our lounge we now have a fire door facing east up the Walk of Shame.

The other major external change is that the awning-like structures that used to hang over the east and west sets of doors have been removed. Upon closer inspection one will also notice that the double doors are gone at the east and west ends, replaced by a single, key-card locked door.

Inside the building one will note many minor changes, such as blue placards outside every door indicating what is behind the door in English and Braille. "Laundry room," "lounge," "bedroom" are some examples of these.

The most significant change to our section has been the lounge. No longer does it open on the atrium directly, and one does not need to pass through the lounge to head down the passageway towards middle. Boldt did a bit of major reconstruction that gives the lounge

its own door, one walks in facing the East now.

The lounge has been brightly painted in red and white, but is just about as big as before. One very remarkable addition is that, when the carpeting was replaced, they integrated the house letters into the carpet. They are centered in the room and are perhaps six feet tall, red on gray. They look quite nice!

In order that the lounges not be too much reduced in size, the walls of 104 and 106 were pushed in a bit. Each room lost "half a closet" worth of floor space in the process. This makes them too small to be doubles and so they have become oversized singles.

The first floor bathroom has also undergone a major change. In an effort to make the building more handicap-accessible, the bathroom was enlarged to permit a much larger shower stall to replace the tub, space for handrails and maneuvering a wheel chair. Very spacious!

Most other changes are reasonably cosmetic and not worth a specific mention. Overall, the building looks okay, although most returning students and visiting alumni agreed that it was too antiseptic looking. I'm sure that by this time in the semester, they've taken care of that!

PONC

"Whipped cream and cherries with this group is a bad idea."

- Liz Rottler (friend of several alumni)

[Ed. Note: I don't know if it's such a bad idea... :-)]

Tau Happenings and Doings

"The meeting of two personalities is like the contact of two chemical substances: if there is any reaction, both are transformed."

- Carl Jung

"You can't be a successful dictator AND design womens' under-clothing."

- Bertie Wooster
(Jeeves & Wooster)

Organized religions... they give God a bad name.

- Pete Lenz (89)

This fall the house got three new pledges. We welcome Emily Dillon, '06 (a legacy, sister of Ken Dillon, '03), Matt Mangerson, '04, and Katie Piccirillo, '04, to the pledging process and look forward to them becoming Future Alumni upon their activation. Live-in and Activation are the weekend of November 21 and 22.

C. Scott Ahern (96), aka Zeus, got married to Kristina Smith on September 6, 2003. The marriage took place in Green Bay, WI.

Brenda Bayard (03) donated the spring break of her senior year to work on homes for Habitat for Humanity in Naples, FL.

Mark Bunce (80, social) and his wife, Jessica, are expecting their first child in March of 2004.

Mike Cason (96) married Susan Crouse on September 6, 2003 in Las Vegas, NV. They later held a reception in Chicago-land.

Rick (92) and Anne Demas announce the birth of their first child, Parker Brotherston Demas. Their son was born July 6, 2003, seven weeks premature, but he is growing fast and is healthy. Rick is an associate at the law firm of Gottesman, Wolgel, Secunda, Malamy, and Flynn in New York City

Fred Graf (66) is a Senior Vice-President at J. Brown & Associates of Chicago, IL. Fred earned an MBA at Northwestern after finishing at Ripon, where he earned a major in History and a minor in Economics. Fred lives in Lincolnshire, IL, with his wife, Pamela.

Theta Sigma Tau Philanthropy

The Spring 2003 Ripon College Magazine had a section that outlined the various organizations on campus and their charitable works. As is typical of publications from the college, they failed to list anything that Tau does.

Tammy Johnson (03) is working on a degree in Social Studies for Secondary Education at Edgewood College in Madison, WI. She will be student teaching next fall. Tammy is also president of *Friends Like Us*, a GLBT awareness group in Madison.

Steve Johnston (93) is engaged. The marriage will take place in October of 2004.

Derf Otting (79) recently contacted the Alumni Association. Derf is living in Green Lake and is interested in getting in touch with some of his old friends from "back in the day."

Andrew Rich (03) was featured in the Spring 2003 Ripon College Magazine (page 25) for his presentation of a workshop on Roman coins to a group of Racine high school students.

Tom Rinker has a 4.0 GPA after completing his first year in a two-year program at ITT. His major is IT-Computer Networking Systems.

Tricia Roll (02) graduates from Army National Guard boot camp on October 23. She has been at Fort Jackson, SC for her training. She will then go on for specialist training with the goal of being a mechanic.

Rebekah Short (95) married Damien Lonnee on August 2, 2003. Rebekah and Damien live in Washington State.

Stacy Slick's (00) husband, Bryan, came home from Iraq in early September. He arrived home safe and sound, somewhat surprising Stacy since the Army had told him for months that he was going home "on the next flight."

Tau regularly takes up collections of money and clothing for the Christine Anne Center of Oshkosh, a refuge for people trying to escape abusive relationships. The house also sponsors a fund drive every spring for the National Arbor Day Foundation.

Tau-bituaries

Kenneth C. Cink (57) of Indian Head Park, IL, died February 16. He taught fourth grade at the Jirka School and was also a teacher at Farragut High School. He retired in 1994 as an administrative assistant at the Chicago Central High School District after 37 years of service. He was a member of the Alumni Board from 2001 until his death. He is survived by his wife, Vincentia.

Charles O. Green (57) of Appleton, WI, died January 26. He was the retired president of Charles O. Green, Inc. He is survived by his wife, Patricia, one son and two daughters.



"Lois, I know that you're a feminist and that's cute, but it's grown up time now and I'm the man."

- Peter Griffin from
Family Guy

Redecoration Fundraiser

The renovation of Mapes has incurred some unexpected expenses for the house. The first and most important of these is that the house letters that used to adorn the outside of Mapes need to be replaced.

These letters had to come down for the renovation, and upon removal it was determined that they were in such poor shape (buckling and rotting) that they could not be put back up.

The president of the house is looking into alternatives for having letters made, painted and erected.

Inside of Mapes, all walls have been painted and so all house decorations (most notably the crests and letters) have been painted over. The only decorations that were spared were the key and the wooden letters usually mounted on the west wall of the lounge.

The membership wants to repaint the crests that were covered up. They are planning to put various incarnation of the Theta Sigma Tau crest on walls of the lounge, paying homage to the earlier, simpler version and also including the current, rather more ornate version.

They will also need to pay the college to have mountings put in place to hang composites and a few other minor things.

Finally, the library is very Spartan looking at this point, they might want to get some decorations for that space, too.

All of these will cost a fair amount of money, and the house is currently rather small and unlikely to be able to afford all of it. Using the exploder to kick it off, a collection was begun amongst alumni to help the house out a bit. Nearly a dozen people have donated and a few more have suggested that they might.

If you would like to contribute, you can send the cash via cheque either directly to Tau or to Pete Lenz, who is collecting the cash and will present a cheque to the house as soon as it seems the money has all come in.

To the house:
Roxanne Ross (president)
600 Campus Dr., Unit 919
Ripon, WI 54971
Payable to: "Theta Sigma Tau"

To Pete:
Peter Lenz
3955 N. Murray Ave., Apt 304
Shorewood, WI 53211
Payable to "Pete Lenz"

Or via www.PayPal.com
Pete's account is under "plenz@uwm.edu"



"I was sucked in by a stripper."

- Rick "Rico" Kimpel (96)



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*Knocking Taus for a
loop since 1989.*

"You know what's weird?"

I'm a hummingbird, but

I'm doing much more

sucking than humming."

- Cosmo on *The Fairly
Oddparents*

Tau Traditions: Halloween

Among the parties that occur every year at Ripon College, the BIG fall party for the campus is Tau's Halloween Party. If a student wants to go to a great party with costumes and contests and fun, East Mapes is THE place to be.

There is something about the way Taus are constructed that makes them want to put on silly costumes, elaborately decorate the lounge, and act generally goofy. The end of October gives them a great outlet for this and they go all out for the holiday.

The decorations for Halloween are often impressive, the house occasionally going so far as to rent a fog machine to add atmosphere to the lounge. With the number of artistic talents that the house tends to attract, the lounge usually becomes transformed into someplace very different.

Other traditional elements of the party include a costume contest and a midnight showing of *The Rocky Horror Picture Show*.

The costume contest typically has three categories: best male's costume, best female's costume, and the best group theme/costume. Voting is based upon the amount of applause the participants get when they are presented during the contest.

Rocky Horror Picture Show has been a Halloween Party staple since the 80s. Everyone joins in the audience participation parts and a good time is had by all.

In the past the decorations were often left up for weeks after the party had finished. Reports of windows reading "Happy Thanksgiving" in November and "Val-oween" parties in February exist.

Apparently some jokers in the 90s actually managed to add to the constitution that Halloween decorations should be left up as long as possible. Around 2000, during a constitutional re-evaluation and update, this item (as well as several other anachronistic items) was removed from the document.

So much do Taus like to dress up that there used to be a spring costume party called "Theme Party," in which a theme would be set (*The Roaring 20s*, *M*A*S*H*, *Comic Books*, *The 60s*, *Under the Sea*, etc.) and the decorations and costumes would fit the theme. Sadly, Theme Party has fallen by the way and has not been held for over a decade. Perhaps a future house will resurrect this entertaining and fun party.

If you're in the area on October 31 this year and looking for a place to show off your nifty costume, stop by the house! Not only is it a popular campus party, it is also THE party most house alumni attend in the fall of the year.

- PML

"Bending spoons? Child's play.

I go for bending souls."

- Barb (Thompson)
Pamberin (89)

