



# ETA SURVEY

Eta Chapter of Kappa Delta Rho Fraternity | The University of Illinois | Fall 2016 | P.O. Box 80828 | Atlanta, Georgia 30366

## A Letter from the Alumni President



### Brothers,

I want to thank all of you who have given and who plan to give to the annual fund this year. Many alumni have increased their usual contribution to provide support to the front-lawn project, and this helped immensely. I am pleased to report that the project was completed over the summer, and we were able to pick the option that got the work we needed finished all at once. We were able to fix the French-drain issue, replace the railroad ties along the parking lot, level the entire front lawn, put up a retaining wall, and replace the sidewalks leading up to the house. This completed the last significant project that was planned following the renovation. Now that it is done, the property looks much nicer!

The chapter hosted a nice homecoming event. It was good to see the alumni who made it back this year, and I hope that everyone had an enjoyable time. All those

**Alumni President** (continued on page 4)



New retaining wall, French drain system, and a project to level the front yard: all completed over the summer.

### Alumni Spotlight:

## Eta Brothers' European Vacation

Brotherhood knows no borders. Eta alumni **Jason Fitterer '07**, **BJ Jacobson '09**, **Paul Torres '09**, **Brian Radzicki '10**, and **Sean Barenbrugge '10** proved this on a recent trip across Europe in August.

The group traveled from Chicago and San Francisco to meet at their first stop, Prague, Czech Republic. Over three days of sightseeing, the alums shot crossbows in Prague Castle, took an unofficial tour of the national library, visited Vyšehrad, a 10<sup>th</sup>-century walled fortress, and wandered the winding cobblestone streets. Through the magic of social media, BJ discovered that recent graduates **Alex Aspell '16** and **Joey Lagoni '16** were also in Prague on their own travels in Europe. The seven Eta alumni met up and enjoyed the various nightlife spots Prague had to offer.

The next stop on the journey took the group to Leipzig, Germany. The city maintains a host of historical sites: most notably, St. Thomas Church, where Johann Sebastian Bach worked as musical director, and a massive stone monument memorializing Napoleon's defeat at the Battle of Nations. The five Etas also visited the Grassi Museum, which houses a fantastic exhibit on musical instruments.



Overlooking the Vltava River with Prague Castle in the background.

From Leipzig, Paul and BJ split off to visit BJ's extended family in small-town Geissen, Germany, for two days. The two then met back up with the other three in Berlin. Highlights included a visit to the Olympic stadium, a tour of Cold War-era underground bomb shelters, and a bike tour that covered a host of landmarks, including existing sections of the Berlin Wall, Checkpoint Charlie, the Reichstag building, and Tiergarten Park.

The last stop on the adventure was Amsterdam. The nearly two weeks of travel did not stop the group from packing in full days of exploring the city's picturesque canals and beautiful parks. Biking is one of the main modes of transportation for locals, so the group took

**European Vacation** (continued on page 4)



In front of a statue of composer Felix Mendelssohn in Leipzig.



# Chapter News



## From the Consul

Eta Chapter has maintained a robust membership of gentlemen, initiating 11 new members in the fall of 2016, a rush that brought forth the highest turnouts at events in recent history. The effort put forth by the brotherhood in recruiting new members is reflected in the scholastic mindset and honorable characters of its new recruits.

During fall rush, the brothers and potential recruits conversed and bonded over barbecue and cornhole. Eta Chapter's strive for excellence is not limited to recruitment; this past fall semester, the members of the chapter raised over \$804 for the McDonough B+ Foundation, a charitable foundation that provides financial and emotional

support to families of children with cancer. This donation was raised at the chapter's semi-annual philanthropy dinner. Eta Chapter also held a fundraiser at the Chipotle on the U of I campus, which raised an additional \$267.58. This brought the chapter total to \$1071.58 for the B+ Foundation, an unprecedented philanthropic success for Eta gentlemen and a worthy contribution to aid those battling cancer.

Our chapter has seen incredible growth, both in the quantity and the character of its individual members, and we strive to continue to foster brotherhood and to make honorable contributions to the society at large.

Fraternally,

Joshua Cohen



The brothers take a moment to pose for a photo during an intramural competition.

## Chapter Spotlight: Sean Tobin

### What kind of projects have you worked on at the house?

Within a semester of being in the house, my pledge brothers and I built a KΔP dice table—a Middlebury blue and Princeton orange table for the game of dice, a house favorite. This semester, my pledge brother **Mackle Berg** and I are working on KΔP wooden letters for the house. We hope to hang them up soon.

### What do you enjoy most about working with environmental sciences?

My passion is for sustainability and love for the outdoors! My love for the environment did not grow until I attended the Chicago High School for Agricultural Sciences. It showed me the plethora of opportunities that working with Mother Nature can bring. Now that I am enrolled at the University of Illinois, I'm in the heat of discovering and utilizing all the work and research that Illinois can offer, such as working with water resources, testing for fertilizer runoff in nearby rivers, or testing multiple plant viruses and what they infect. Currently, I am in the process of interviewing for a logistics job in California that deals with the supply and

demand of basic produce, such as carrots and potatoes—fingers crossed!

### How did you get involved in the cycling club?

Over the summer, I stayed in Champaign for water-resources research. During that time, I bought an old 1970s Schwinn road bike. I loved riding her so much that I decided to take advantage of this! Quad day, a day dedicated to advertising the local clubs on campus, rolled around, and I signed up for the club. Now, we meet every Wednesday in the English building and have rides almost every day. Nothing feels more relaxing than speeding down the old roads of Champaign County.

### Outside of school, what do you do for fun?

When I am not at school, work, or working out, I am taking it easy at the house with the boys, playing catch on our lawn, shooting pool, or watching movies.

Sean (right) and his friends, Niko and Barry, about to start a half-mile run at Allerton State Park in Champaign county.

**Editor's Note:** Representing the chapter in the Spotlight is Sean Tobin. Sean is a legacy and comes to us from the South Side of Chicago. A sophomore, he is already active with the chapter and serves as excitement chair. Sean stays busy working part-time at Joe's Brewery as a fry cook, and with the Illini Cycling club. He is pursuing a degree in environmental sciences, with a minor in geology, and has already put his knowledge to use by working with the Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences Department. Outside of school, he enjoys working on his bike and making improvements around the Eta Chapter house.



Sean on the back of a pickup truck in Champaign County, about to survey a drainage ditch for fertilizer leakage.





## Congratulations to our 2016 Scholarship Winners!

### Donald Fraser '19

New Member Academic Achievement Scholarship: \$100

### Zachary Goldberg '19

New Member Academic Achievement Scholarship: \$100



### Andrew Lee '19

New Member Academic Achievement Scholarship: \$100; Guy H. Davis Scholarship: \$1,000



### Mike Mayer '18

Commerford Martin Engineering Scholarship: \$1,750; William J. Paris scholarship: \$1,000; Rho Alumni Scholarship: \$1,000



### Steve Pelezarski '18

Dale Schaffenacker Scholarship: \$1,000



### Tyler Rasmussen '17

New Member Academic Achievement Scholarship: \$100; Thomas P. Burns Memorial Scholarship: \$1,000; Rho Alumni Scholarship: \$1,000



### Patrick Wales '18

ETA Alumni Scholarship: \$1,000



### Colin Weintraub '18

Rho Alumni Scholarship: \$1,000

**Taylor H. Bell '62** – I stopped going to Homecoming when Illinois started to schedule Ball State. I still remember when I was living in Champaign after graduating, working for the *Champaign-Urbana Courier* and covering an Illinois football team that featured Dick Butkus, Jim Grabowski, and a dozen other players who were drafted into the NFL. KΔP brother **Sammy Rebecca '52** used to come to the fraternity house and talk about kicking the field goal that put Illinois in



the 1952 Rose Bowl. Everybody had to sleep in an open fresh-air dorm, and we had a full-time cook to make every meal except Sunday night's. Plus, Caesar, our mascot, was the biggest and most visible dog on campus. However, we never had 85 guys in the house!

**Theodore W. Bayler '50** – Retired. Birth of a great-grandchild. Not likely a KΔP recruit however; she is a girl.

**John F. Wood '50** – Retired engineer (electronics manufacturing), USCG 200-ton captain, inventor, home builder, beach bum.

### HAVE ALUMNI NEWS?

We want to hear from you! Send your personal updates, accomplishments, adventures, and photos to our account manager Kasey Breedlove at [kbreedlove@elevateims.com](mailto:kbreedlove@elevateims.com), or simply fill out the tear-away form at the bottom of your cover letter and return it in the mail. We want to share it in the next issue of *The Eta Survey*!



Alumni and family gathered for Homecoming 2016 (L-R): Dan Tempas '82, Greg Lynn '85, Paul Shafer '83, Paul LoPresti '84, Dan Ruzicka '85, Jack Zumwalt '84, Rod Casaclang '87, Lisa Riegel Lynn, and Julie Cunningham.



## UPDATE YOUR E-MAIL

We want *you* to be in the loop! Please confirm we have a good email for you. We periodically send updates, reminders, and good wishes at the holidays electronically. This saves time and money and keeps you in the loop. To check your information, go to [www.kdrillinois.org](http://www.kdrillinois.org) and log in. You can view and update your contact information.



### The Fall 2016 Class



# We have a new website: [www.kdrillinois.org](http://www.kdrillinois.org). Check it out!



The whole group meeting in Prague (L-R): Paul Torres, Joey Lagoni, Sean Barenbrugge, Jason Fitterer, Alex Aspell, Brian Radzicki, BJ Jacobson



Walking up the steps of Prague Castle.

## European Vacation

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another bike tour, which covered various districts of the city and made stops at the Anne Frank house and the oldest structure in Amsterdam, which was creatively named Old Church.

It was an eventful and unforgettable two weeks for the alumni and a great reminder of how far the brotherhood bonds forged in KΔP can take you.



Above: Touring by bicycle in Amsterdam.  
At right: The Lennon Wall.



Posing with the "guards" at Checkpoint Charlie in Berlin.



## What year is it?



Submit your guess and comments to our account manager, Kasey Breedlove ([kbreedlove@elevateims.com](mailto:kbreedlove@elevateims.com)).

## Leave A Legacy

Consider a lasting gift that will support Kappa Delta Rho long after you are gone. By including Eta in your estate plans, you ensure the long-term health and success of our fraternity. Here's what you and/or your advisor might need to know; the most common ways to include Eta are through your will or life insurance. Sample language: I leave the sum of (\$XXXXXX.xx or xx% of my estate) to: Eta Building Association of Kappa Delta Rho, tax ID number 37-6048873, c/o the National Fraternity of Kappa Delta Rho, Greensburg, PA 15601, for their general purposes.

*PLEASE NOTE: This information is not presented as legal or tax advice. Always consult your advisors for questions you might have.*

## Alumni President

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who returned couldn't help but notice the ongoing changes on campus. The six-pack dorms continue to be torn down and replaced two buildings at a time. Our neighbors, Lambda Chi Alpha, have torn down their house and are building a new one. As you look around campus, it is amazing to see 20-story apartment buildings full of high-end apartments. The house corporation is aware of our changing environment and is continually evaluating our best options as we look toward the future.

As the year comes to a close, I want to wish everyone a wonderful holiday season, an enjoyable time with family and friends, and all the best in the coming year!

Fraternally,

Mike Kolberg '03  
President, Eta Building Association

## KΔP

Fall 2016 Eta pledge class.

