

SPECIAL  
POINTS OF  
INTEREST:

- Recruitment
- Scholarship
- Operations
- Housing
- Philanthropy
- Brotherhood



INSIDE  
THIS ISSUE:

- President's Corner 2
- A few Words from the VP 2
- Social Zone 2
- New Member Ceremony 3
- "Bird-Dog?" 3
- Extolling Virtue 3
- New Member Thoughts 4

# The Θ X Helping Hand

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 2

NOVEMBER 5, 2005

## Zeta Tau Alpha's "Big Man on Campus"

A prime example of what the Greek community truly stands for...

On Friday, October 14, 2005, Zeta Tau Alpha sorority held its annual fundraising event to benefit breast cancer research and awareness.

Twenty IU fraternities participated in the fundraiser; each raised money and had a representative participate in a Talent Show portion of the event entitled, "Lights, Camera, Action! Hollywood 2005." The group most successful in fundraising (60% of score), and performance (40% of score) is named "2005 Big Man on Campus."

Theta Chi was among these fraternities. Our representative, Ray Vanlanot—whose character was Top Gun's "Maverick"—appropriately played piano and "crooned" the Righteous Brothers' hit, "You've Lost that Loving Feeling." In addition to this performance, by the end of the fundraising period, Alpha Iota had raised nearly \$3000, selling over 100 t-shirts and 150 tickets. Most groups sold around 40 t-shirts and 50 tickets...

Thanks to some corporate sponsorship, Lambda Chi Alpha took home the title, having raised around



Ray performing at the Indiana University Auditorium for "Big Man on Campus"

\$6700, while Kappa Sigma raised around \$6650 for "Runner-Up." Jumping into the spotlight, however, Theta Chi won its first new trophy for the house, being named "Second-Runner-Up." And even more so, the event as a whole raised \$97,000, a record for Zeta Tau Alpha philanthropy nationwide. An amazing event... an even more amazing display of character for the men of Alpha Iota.

## Intramural Capture-the-Flag Champs

Blowing away the competition in ALL regards...

To further the week of winning for the group, Alpha Iota won its first Intramural Sports Championship thanks to the efforts of Dylan Benjamin, Erik Braden, Scott Sellers, and Zach Smith.

The Capture-the-Flag prowess of this team beat both Kappa Sigma and Sigma Nu, entering the final match against Delta Upsilon. With acts of swiftness

and cunning, the group captured DU's flag, winning the match, with Theta Chi victorious as ever. Hats off to this incredible display of athleticism.

Alpha Iota has also participated in Intramural Indoor Soccer, Ultimate Frisbee, and Whiffle Ball as of recent; the Ultimate Frisbee team made a hell of a showing at its tournament, as well.

It's true... Alpha Iota's kind of a big deal...

# President's Corner: Ray Vanlanot

"We shall defend our island." Former English Prime Minister Winston Churchill was very passionate about his country, the world, and where he wanted to see things in years to come. Rightfully so.

I pride myself on belonging to Theta Chi. The group's growth has taken a recess until Spring, and we now worry less about meeting others and more about knowing ourselves. The pride that I now have is portrayed not by turning my nose up at other groups, but by spreading the incredible ex-

periences and friendships I've gained through Theta Chi to the rest of the community so that they may too feel that pride.

With such pride comes responsibility—a new sense of responsibility to my brothers. I came to IU as an only child, and since, I have assumed fifty-nine brothers. No, we haven't been initiated as brothers. But Theta Chi or not, these guys are my family, for better and for worse. And I am sure I speak for everyone when I say that I shall defend my island.

Defense by action, leading by example. We're not "frat boys." We have no "gang mentality." However, with every meeting, every football game, every story told by DJ, Kevin, Myles, or Warren, we realize what we have... And more so, we realize what we will continue to gain.

And so I call upon everyone—new and old—to defend our island. Lead by example, support each other. The rest will take care of itself. - RV



Photo by: Kevin McIntosh

The Fathers at a Formal Chapter meeting in October

*"We may have all come on different ships, but we're in the same boat now," Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.*

## A few Words from the VP: Danny Hall

Having ended fall rush, it's time for to come together as a family and start fresh.

With our new member program, committees networking within the Greek community, and our petition underway, the time for us to become a family has never been more pertinent. It is a wonderful feeling to know I can call on 60 brothers for help with anything that I am struggling with and without

hesitation, they will come to my defense. I hope, over the next few months, that we become a closer group than ever before and I have challenged everyone to get involved within the fraternity. Involvement and participation from all members is vital to the success of Theta Chi not just at IU, but anywhere. Responsibility is a virtue that will be key to success in life; I know if I hold

everyone accountable for his actions, I'll do the same.

Martin Luther King Jr. said it best, "We may have all come on different ships, but we're in the same boat now." This depicts our group; and I could not be more proud. For us, it is true that "united we stand, but divided we fall." We will stay together, and I will not feel divided between my brothers. - DH

## Social Zone: Ryan Weaver, Co-Chair

New Member, Jonathan Carter, in luau-worthy aborigine wear



Photo compliments of facebook.com

Things have gotten off to a great start this year! We have had more social success than our social committee could have imagined. I have received nothing but positive feedback from Kappa Deltas—the luau

was excellent—and we already know that the Alpha Chi's appreciate our cleaning up after their volleyball classic. I am so proud of all our guys for being such gentlemen. Keep in mind: we have a lot of financial responsibilities to take care of in order to get our charter back, so things may slow down a bit. Be Watch for a Christ-

mas event with Delta Zeta. We're also looking at setting something up with Tri Deltas, Pi Beta Phi, Alpha Omicron Pi, and Alpha Phi...funds permitting. Don't forget our dinner tomorrow at Alpha Chi... All in all we have made a name for ourselves as men of great character, and that's exactly where we want to be. - RW

# ⊕ X New Member Ceremony. October 30, 2005



Photo by: Pat Giese

**Being called forward to accept the New Member Button**

Iota took part in the New Member Ceremony, becoming official "New Members" (the term "Pledge" has been retired") of the Alpha Iota Colony of Theta Chi Fraternity. This brings the official count up to sixty men.

of recruitment. Keep in mind though, we're not just any men... we're men of Theta Chi.

Special thanks go out to Alumnus Advisor Myles Smith for organizing and preparing us for the ceremony, Alumnus Advisor DJ Sirota for his speech in the ceremony, and for our CAB Advisor Kevin McIntosh for videotaping and helping out with the ceremony.

This is the next big step to becoming your official brothers... We look forward to sharing with you the badge of Theta Chi.

Most other houses scoff at recruitment, viewing it as a chore. We didn't seem to have much trouble...

Thirty-nine New Members of Alpha

Sixty men strong in... nine months? A perplexed look comes across the face of every other fraternity man when he hears the news, as no house comes close to that caliber

*"You wouldn't believe the amount of bird-doggin' that went on!" - Kevin McIntosh*

## "Bird-Dog?": Trey Sellers, Secretary

One of the many things I've learned from Theta Chi, and by far the most intriguing, is the term 'bird-dog'. I didn't know what to think when I first was introduced to this concept. A definition was never explicitly provided, but it always sounded promiscuous, offensive, or just simply bad. So I decided to look it up. Interestingly, 'bird-dog' is actually a real word. One definition given helped me to imply the meaning of 'bird-dog' in the context

it has been used. However, the American Heritage College Dictionary also defines it as "*v-* To follow a subject of interest, such as a person or trend, with persistent attention". Well, that sounds like stalking to me. But as I thought about it, I realized that, according to this definition, the Alpha Iota Colony is being bird-dogged. Now, before you get upset, I just want to point out that this bird-dogging may be one of the top reasons this group

has been so successful. So, I want to thank the Colony Advisory Board for all the time, effort, and money they have so generously committed to our group of men. We couldn't have done it without you. I'm proud to be able to look back one day and say, in the words of Kevin McIntosh, "You wouldn't believe the amount of bird-doggin' that went on!" - TS

## Extolling Virtue

It's not all about the GPA... As part of a national lecture series, former Russian President Mikhail Gorbachev spoke last week at Depauw University. A group of eight Theta Chi's road-tripped to hear the former leader... a great way to share both brotherhood and scholarship. Thanks to Blake Pickett for the heads-up on this opportunity!

Two weeks ago, in Trafalgar, Indiana, the NIC-sponsored IMPACT Leadership conference was held. This conference was specifically for IU fraternities and sororities, and focused on building a better Greek community and positive-change-oriented leaders. Theta Chi was the only colony present at the event, but it certainly had plenty of repre-

sentation. Each group sent two members, and Alpha Iota's Ray Vanlanot and Luke Hawthorn were in attendance. Theta Chi is making a name for itself in all the right ways.



The group at Depauw University to see Mikhail Gorbachev



## Theta Chi Fraternity

### Theta Chi Fraternity Alpha Iota Chapter

Theta Chi Fraternity, Al  
c/o Ray Vanlanot  
Read Curry 222  
125 S. Jordan Ave.  
Bloomington, IN 47406  
Phone: 317-371-3757  
E-mail: rvanlano@indiana.edu  
thetachi@indiana.edu

### ⊗X Alpha Iota Quick-View Update

- #1 IU Fraternity GPA, Fall 2005
- 60 men strong, November 1, 2005
- Big Man on Campus 2nd-Runner-Up
- 2nd Runner Up, AXΩ Volleyball Classic
- Intramural Champions: Capture-the-flag
- Installation Ceremony, TBA, March 2006
- Every Thursday night, 9:15pm:  
Buffalo Wild Wings  
1350 W. Bloomfield Rd.  
Bloomington, IN 47403
- New Member Ed. and Chapter meetings,  
Sundays at 5pm, IMU (rooms vary)

“Extending a Helping Hand”



# New Member Thoughts

“It’s only getting better and better. With every new day, there is another reason of why I am glad I joined Theta Chi. Our brotherhood events, intramural games, and chapter meetings are giving me the opportunity to make memories and an everlasting friendship with my brothers that will last me a lifetime. The sky is the limit for our Fraternity and I cannot wait to see how far we fly,” *Matt Agler, New Member*

“Theta Chi is looking at a very bright future with more dinners, conferences and great time. Theta Chi is now well-known on campus and I am proud to be apart of the outstanding group of men,” *Mitch McKinney, New Member*

“As things start to progress, members get involved and new committees form, I realize that there is not a better fraternity out there. I could not have asked to be sitting with a better group of men every Sunday night at meetings. I can already see the many



Photo by: Pat Giese

**New and old members enjoying the weekly trip to Buffalo Wild Wings. Join us any Thursday, at 9:15pm! (see above for location)**

once in a life time opportunities that Theta Chi is presents. I never thought that joining a group of men had so many rewards. But then again, Theta Chi isn’t any ordinary group of men,” *Patrick Harsnett, New Member*

“My first months of Theta Chi have been much different than I would have expected a fraternity to be. That, however, is why I made the choice to join Theta Chi because it is not a “typical fraternity,” but it is a special one. One where the brothers are individuals, leaders, and men of good character. One where the brothers are willing to make a sacrifice, where the brothers are truly the brothers I never had,” *Kyle Falk, New Member*