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RED DOOR JOURNAL

NC Iota, March 2019

IMPORTANT DATES

Heart Day March 31

Greek Show April 12

Founders Day April 27

Tragos Quest June 13

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the Red Door Journal by Sigma Phi Epsilon NC Iota here in Wilson, NC.

We reinstated this journal as a way to engage more with non-local alumni and to bring you news about Sigep here at 606 West Nash Street.

The new substance-free chapter home policy enacted by Nationals is one that has not been parallel with other Greek Fraternal organizations in the United States, with the exception of sororities. Nationals have made the decision that all illicit substances, including tobacco and alcohol, are to be banned from the premises effective immediately. However, it is of the utmost importance to note that we have been permitted four alcohol-related events per semester that include faculty, staff, or alumni. This means that events such as Founders, Homecoming, Wine & Cheese, and other events will be permitted to have alcohol at the Fraternity House. The only stipulation is that we must have a licensed caterer to provide the alcohol that is consumed on Fraternity grounds. We must do our best to abide by these conditions since we have faced repercussions in the past.

Contact Us

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Wilson, NC

Communications
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*Cameron Loseke
Chapter President*

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Brothers, Alumni, and Friends of the Chapter,

My name is Cameron Loseke and I am the president of the NC Iota Chapter of Sigma Phi Epsilon here at Barton College. I began my tenure as President in the Summer of 2018.

When I came to Barton I had no interest in joining Greek Life. I had always heard stories and movies describing fraternities as something that I was just completely against and I did all I could to avoid them my first semester at college. Not long into college however, I found myself under hard times and going through a situation that caused me to struggle to understand my purpose and really losing myself in who I was as an individual. With that being said, I found my happiness in those around me. I started to cling closely with individuals with like-minded values and found myself coming in contact with individuals who happened to be in Sigma Phi Epsilon. I received my bid in the spring semester of the 2016-2017 school year and quickly found myself being put into a position of responsibility.

Our chapter finds our success as individuals and as a whole. Currently, our GPA is the highest among fraternities sitting at a 2.9 and we are back to back winners in Greek Show here at Barton (looking to make it 3) We also find success in our brothers individually. Last year we were awarded the Greek Man of the Year as well as the Greek Academic Man of the year. One of our members was awarded the Tragos Quest to Greece from Sigma Phi Epsilon Nationals, and we find success in our personal lives via academics, athletics, and personal accomplishments.

If you would like to speak to me about myself, the chapter, or anything else, please feel free to email me at cjloseke@bulldogs.barton.edu

In Virtue, Diligence, and Brotherly Love,

Cameron J Loseke

Chapter President | Sigma Phi Epsilon NC Iota

GPA REPORT

In the Fall Semester of 2018/19, NC Iota had the highest GPA out of all fraternities on campus (2.92). We will keep on striving towards higher GPA and to remain the best fraternity at Barton College.



Actives and alumni during the first Alumni Board meeting of 2019 Spring Semester.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

President

Cameron Loseke (919) 812-1109

VP of Programming

Bailey Symons (252) 562-5076

VP of Finance

Luis Reyes (407) 591-9815

VP of Member Development

Stosh Madey (919) 605-7483

VP of Recruitment

Brian Creasey (757) 309-5218

VP of Communication

Jaki Gabric

Chaplain

Lance Hillis (323) 559-0487

Alumni/Active Brother Mentorship

At the beginning of the Spring semester of 2019, we had a combined meeting with alumni board and executive board of the active chapter. One of the points was to reinstate Alumni/Active mentorship for current Executive board members to help them grow the chapter by being advised by alumni who held these positions before. This will also help create a stronger bond between active and alumni members of NC Iota. If you would like to participate or be involved, please contact Alumni Board President Jacob Sarvey.



Photograph before “Storm the Doorm” (top) and Brothers presenting check to Mrs. Evans (bottom).

CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

October, breast cancer awareness month is the time when brothers want to contribute to people fighting with this horrible disease. This year we decided to help out a local Wilsonite so we reached out to Kiayuana Evans. 27 year old mother of two had a goal of \$3,000 to help her pay her medical bills so we re-grouped and used tactic “Storm the Dorm” with permission, and asked faculty and the rest of the staff to help us raise money.

Donator’s Room Plaques

Wilson, NC - Thank you to all of the people that donated throughout the year and special thanks to those who donated in the room auction. We raised over \$3,000 from it, which went to help pay for the much needed roof repairs. There were a few rooms that were not auctioned off, so they are up for bid this upcoming Founders.



Plaques made as a Thank You to the generous alumni who donated.

Tragos Quest Finalist and Winner

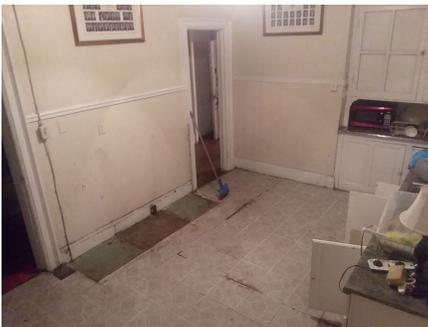
Atlanta, GA - During the final night of Carlson Leadership Academy, our VP of Finances, Luis Reyes had a great honor to become a Tragos Quest to Greece Scholar. It is a privilege to get unanimously chosen for such an important and valuable experience. Only about 18 members, or less than 1% of brothers, get selected to participate every year. This event is a privilege and an invaluable opportunity and will certainly help us to get more recognized among other SigEp chapters.



Left to right; Luis Reyes, Jaki Gabric, Robert Zamorano, after receiving the trophy.

SWIMMERS WIN CONFERENCE

Charlotte, NC - The Barton College men's swimming team, along with three Sigep brothers, became the first team to win Conference Carolinas Championship. Inaugural meet was held at the Mecklenburg County Aquatic Center and was co-hosted with Bluegrass Mountain Conference. Luis Reyes, Robert Zamorano, and Jaki Gabric also swam their best and won five medals combined in individual races. Luis also won Men's Elite 23 Award, presented to the student-athlete with the highest cumulative GPA at their championship site.



Kitchen - taking down old tiles (top), and replacing it with new floor (bottom).

HOUSE RENOVATIONS

Over the span of the last three years, there have been a number of major renovations done to the house. This is including repairing the HVAC, repaving the driveway, fixing the water damage to the roof, sheetrock work to the ceilings, interior painting for the house, fixing the porch and rebuilding the floors in the hallways and kitchen at a total estimated cost of \$23,100. These renovations have been provided through the generous donations of our alumni, alumni board finances, and the fundraising efforts of the active chapter. On several occasions, the house was at serious risk of condemnation, without the ability to make the repairs necessary to pass city inspection. But once again, we were able to pull through. We've made additional improvements to the house by including technology in a way to modernize and adapt to today's world. We have streaming services like Hulu and Netflix, X-Box for brothers and recruits, security camera and smart lights.

CLA 2019

This year at CLA, Nationals “surprised” us with a website made for NC Iota and other chapters as a way to help chapters grow and have better connection with their school’s faculty, staff, and students. As of now, we have not updated all the information on it, but we will work on it in the near future.

Website:

barton.sigep.org

FOUNDERS DAY

For this upcoming Founders, we are discussing the idea of selling wristbands at \$20 a piece, that when purchased, you are allowed open bar access (beer, cider, and wine) for alumni, guests, and brothers that are 21+. Since the chapter is not allowed to buy alcohol with chapter funds, this is a deal that is going to have to be negotiated with a vendor of our choice, who will provide the alcohol for free, but accept cash from wristband sales.

We are planning to have breakout sessions during Founders following the 11 a.m. meeting on Saturday, April 27th. Following the meeting, Alumni will have the opportunity to meet with individual E-Board members in separate parts of the house to discuss ideas to improve the Fraternity. First we will gather at Parker’s Barbecue at 12:30 p.m., and we will also be hosting Founders Day dinner at Pup’s Steakhouse on April 27th. Not all details have been finalized yet, but we will inform you in time.



CLA Atlanta 2019, left to right; Brian Creasey, Stosh Madey, Bailey Symons, Luis Reyes, Bobby Bennett, Ryan Todd.

SIGEPS WORKING TO MAKE GREEK LIFE AFFORDABLE



Blast from the past; amazing drawing of 701 (top), and a photograph of our house today, 606 West Nash St (bottom).

Many of you understand the burden that each active member of our chapter has when trying to pay their financial obligations to help the running of the fraternity. We all understand that mostly all college students, greek or non-greek are generally stretched very thin when it comes money in college. Basically, we were all broke in college and this has not really changed. What has changed is the cost of tuition. Since 2013-2014 academic year Barton has raised the cost of attendance (Tuition, Room & Board) 4% each year. This is the national average of percentage increase by colleges so Barton isn't doing anything out of the ordinary from other colleges. The cost of attendance quickly rose from around \$35,000 - \$36,000 in 2013, to 2018-2019 academic year of \$41,000. Also looks like it will be up to \$42,000 next year. However; academic scholarships did not increase at the same rate meaning most students spend more on college. This makes sense from a college standpoint to increase revenue, as we see so many other institutions in financial struggles. But this does highlight a concern for those interested or involved in Greek life, who might not have the financial means to join. So what do we do?

For young, active men there can be only one thing. We work. We work to pay our bills, like what will happen when they graduate college. But how does a college student find the time through all the studying, extra-curricular activities, sports etc.. Well that's where we need help. We are looking for alumni, or connections through our alumni in helping meet our financial obligations by finding odd jobs, or weekend projects where the chapter as a whole is able to help each other work to pay off dues and other debts. Any assistance with this program is much appreciated, and we would like to continue this program for many years to come as a way to stay financially stable as a chapter.



Jacob Sarvey

ALUMNI BOARD PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

To the brothers, alumni, and friends of Sigma Phi Epsilon NC Iota,

Thank you all for the time, energy, and donations you have put in to maintain and support the local chapter of NC Iota. This is another call for support. Due to many policy changes within the national chapter, the current active chapter has fallen under financial hardship. The alumni board is currently working in tandem with the active chapter to streamline funds and protect the house and charter both of which serve as a cornerstone of NC Iota.

The active chapter has been resolute and has persevered through these obstacles, but they need help. They have moved forward with many changes in order to minimize risk and maximize efficiency. They represent the brotherly love of Sigma Phi Epsilon and we will continue to work diligently to aid them to the best of our ability. The alumni board hopes this message finds each and every one of you well, and we will see you at Founders.

HFF,
Jacob Sarvey

CONCLUSION

Thank You for reading The Red Door Journal and to everyone who contributed towards making it. We hope to see you all on Founders April 27th and 28th.

HFF,

Jaksa Gabric
VP of Communication