

The Electron – 2016

Beta Active Chapter

Over the course of the last year a lot has been going on at Beta chapter. We have made a push to be more involved on campus, have made some major renovations to the chapter house, and have gained and lost some members. With these changes Beta has seen good results.

In the spring of 2015 Beta chapter was involved in the College of Science and Engineering Expo. This is an even where middle school students are brought onto campus and student groups get the chance to get them interested in the STEM field. The project chosen was quadcopters. Two were built and the basics to how they work were described. We even let the kids learn how to fly them in an enclosed area. We also compete in the CSE week quiz bowl and didn't take last place. Probably the most fun event was when we brought a keg onto campus for a student org fair with the college's blessing. All of the freshman loved the root beer.

The past year also came with some changes in membership. We had a handful of members graduate. Most went right into industry, but one went on to graduate school. Members were also gained. In the fall of 2015 three new members joined. Included were Elizabeth Vo, Niki Spence, and Jack Zofkie.

Many projects at the chapter house were undertaken. The biggest one was replacing many of the bricks on the northwest corner of the house and tuck-pointing others. We also had the plaster on the inside of the same corner replaced. Once this was completed the front porch had plaster patched and the whole thing painted. The outside of the house was improved with new landscaping as well as granite rock. Many of the rooms in the house were repainted by their new tenants this year. We also took on the project of giving one of our main bathrooms a renovation including replacing drywall and painting a lot of the room.

Beta Alumni Association

The Beta Alumni Association has been actively trying to improve its operations over the last year. We have created a new website, located at alumni.khkbeta.org, where alumni can look for future events, submit their contact information to be updated for future events, and pay their dues. This has allowed us to implement better communication tools to help us reach and maintain our alumni network. We have also been involved with several house improvement projects over the last year, including a bathroom remodel and exterior masonry repairs to the house.

2016 financial projection:

Income

+ Rent = \$33,000

Expenses

- M&R Fund = \$4,000
- Special Projects \$5,000.00
- Rental License - Oct \$439.00
- Insurance - Sept \$8,947.52
- Property Taxes - May and Oct \$6,040.00
- House Foundation \$4,000.00
- Founders Day (mostly recovered) \$200.00

Net: \$4,573.48

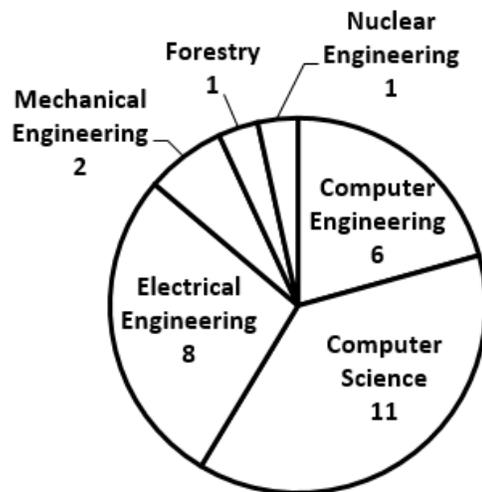
This January we held our annual meeting, and grew in size from 11 to 13 board members. Monthly meetings can be found on the website, and are open to all alumni and active members.

Delta Active Chapter

Membership

Currently the membership sits at a steady 30 brothers, five of which were initiated last semester. We welcome James Matanle, Luke Huybrecht, Samuel Julson, Calvin Rueb, and Jacob Fostner into our fraternity as we say congratulations and good luck to four new alumni: Grant Langlois and Mo Lü who have moved to Seattle, Washington to work at Boeing and Google respectfully, Christian Elowsky who remains in the house for and has begun working at Hardin Design and Development, and Jared Pierce who is working towards a master's degree in Electrical Engineering here at UW-Madison. After a very successful rush season ran by Calvin Rueb, we initiated eight perspectives into pledgship at our semesterly Steak Dinner, which three honorary professors attended as well. There will be four graduating members this semester: Joseph Dailey, Maggie O'Leary, Ethan Erdmann, and Nick Meythaler. Our current officers are Joseph Dailey as President, Jack Heinzelmann as Vice President, Andrew Zaruba as Treasurer, Edward Oakes as Secretary at Large, Reid Beatty as Social Chair at Large, Jonah Mandli as Member at Large, Jared Zingsheim as Pledge Trainer, and Calvin Reub as Publicity Chair.

PRIMARY MAJOR



Projects

Arcade Machine

We have recently finished building a two-player bar-top arcade machine. Constructed of MDF, the cabinet houses a 19" LCD panel which plays 100s of arcade games on a Raspberry Pi 2 that is controlled by two sets of joystick and button controls. Joseph Dailey built the cabinet as well as installed all of the components. He and Samuel Julson have been working on the software side to bring more games onto the machine. This project cost ~\$200 and was funded by the chapter.



Infinity Pong Table

Later in the semester we will begin work on a new beer pong table which consists of opposing one-way/two-way mirrors and LED lighting, presenting the illusion of infinite depth. This is a very expensive project, therefore we are taking special precautions for stability, water-tightness, maintenance, and damage prevention. The total costs will be in the range of \$1300 - \$1600. We have raised more than half of this total from donations alone, with \$500 from alumnus Lucas Mullens, \$175 from alumnus Brian Brinsko, and \$500 from member Joseph Dailey.

Pledge Project: Slide Rule

This semester we are having our pledges draft a new slide rule for future classes to use in the pledging process. Our primary concern is that the current slide rule be preserved **before** it becomes damaged beyond use. To do so, local alumnus Steve Paugh has opted to create a wood framed Plexiglas case to encase it. As for the new build, we have developed a multi-stage plan to introduce the pledges to CAD for which the final designs can be used to produce a UHMW (self-lubricating) plastic slide rule with etched aluminum of the same over-sized scale. This project has been funded at \$800 by the chapter.

House Improvement

Computer Room

The computer room has also had tremendous improvement this semester. With the heavy efforts of our local forester and appointed Computer Chair, Ethan Erdmann, the room has been cleaned, reorganized, and restocked. It is safe to say that it has not been this functional in at least the four years I've been here.

We are also making strides in a big network overhaul with the introduction of a new server to our server rack which is to be used to host a variety of web services both utilized and created by the membership. The foremost use of this machine will be hosting our delta.khk.org website, but we also have created several services such as a library search engine, an alumni search Base, an online agenda system, a slideshow and upload system, Gitlab server, as well as a document access solution for our in house data server. We have also recently finished upgrading to an entirely cat6 gigabit network.



server rack w/ public server, private server, routing server, gigabit switch, patch panel, and battery

DAA Bar Fund

Through the guidance of Alumni Steve Paugh, we have incorporated a professional DMX lighting console into our DJ server rack. This board now controls all the lights in our basement which consists of all new motion lighting, an LED bar, and underglow lighting beneath the ledge of the bar. And last but not least we have received a brand new 40" TV via a personal donation by current member Luke Huybrecht. With the mount installed by Steve Paugh, the next purchase is a solution for Cable TV and N64 to add to our current Chromecast provided by Alumni Anton Beattie.

Library

For the past several semesters, the library has been more of a storage room than a homework area. That is, until now. The library is now seeing more use than ever with the addition of several spare monitors, an all-in-one docking station, and a brand new duplex laser printer. Our book collection has also been recently cataloged by ISBN and accompanied with a search engine on our website that can be access by members.

Soda Machine

Our soda machine, which has sat dormant for several years, has been given new lights, restocked, and rewired with a new RFID scanner to accept payment by members' student IDs. We are having a new piece of Plexiglas printed with a refreshing KHK logo to replace the original Pepsi one.

Miscellaneous

We are also pursuing house improvements at a recently unprecedented rate. Strong efforts are being made to make the house more aesthetically pleasing and comfortable. We have hung old signs and letters around the house.



letters taken from the previous house sign, painted gold, and hung in the computer room

Our beer pong tables have been rewired and resealed. Room 21 has been turned into a full-fledged theater by Joseph Dailey, packed with a 120" projector screen and four AMC-West theater seats. Overall the house is being kept cleaner than in recent years thanks to our stern House Steward, Jaron Rosenau. These efforts have set the stage for larger renovations to begin taking place such as installing new cabinetry in the kitchen, refinishing floors, and adding thermostatic radiator valves to each room.

Fellowship

With a recent record attendance of professors at our Steak Dinner, thanks to efforts by our ECE Liaison Alex Bare, we are striving to increase the amount of involvement of faculty in KHK. Along with this Alex has been organizing bimonthly events in which KHK hosts talks by professors and engineers in the industry followed by free food and drinks. With the success of three KHK talks, the chapter has funded a full installation of a brand new 1080p projector with motorized and protected Screen.

Delta Alumni Association

The 2014-2015 financial report was printed in the Fall 2015 Homecoming newsletter. As of this writing we have roughly \$54,000 in our accounts with \$20,000 in CD's, \$5,000 in a loan to DHC for the porch & pantry renovations, \$3,000 in savings and the balance in checking for operating expenses. At the February 2016 meeting we will review the current 2015-2016 accounts and our budget for the upcoming year. We will end 2015 with 155 members, compared with 160 members in 2014, 151 members in 2013, 157 members in 2012, 189 members in 2011, 157 members in 2010, 161 members in 2009, 155 members in 2008, 182 members in 2007, 191 members in 2006 and 196 members in 2005.

The DAA endeavors to attend the weekly Chapter Exec Board meeting held each Monday evening at the Chapter house. Several DAA officers are also officers of the DHC so both entities are represented at the weekly meetings. The DHC is looking for local alumni who can help serve on the DHC board.

Delta Housing Corp

The charter of the Delta Housing Corporation (DHC) is to provide a house for Delta members to have meetings, provide a study and recreation environment for members between classes, hold events and provide lodging to the membership at below market prices. DHC owns and maintains the chapter house and rents it to the chapter. The DHC is incorporated separately from the DAA and our income and expenses are kept separate from each other. Some chapter improvement funding may be shared with the approval of the DAA and DHC officers.

The last structure improvements to the house were a new back porch and panty rebuild in 2009 and a total rebuild of the front porch in 2010. We are still paying off these improvements.

The last infrastructure improvement was about 50 years ago, in 1970 when we replaced the steam heating system with a hot water circulating system. The hot water system reused the existing radiators and steam riser pipes. We are at the point where we need to do some major updating of the heating system. Another consideration is the proliferation of new apartments surrounding the Chapter house that offer better amenities, albeit and higher rents than the chapter is charging. At our February special meeting we will start a discussion on how to ensure the future viability of the chapter house and to enhance the amenities to better compete with the new rental properties in the area.

City of Madison's property tax bill for 2016 is expected to show an increase over last year's bill and our property insurance keeps going up. On the reply slip you will see a new donation fund for Chapter house improvements. The DHC has had several meetings with the Chapter's Executive Board members to identify remodeling projects to improve the quality of the fraternity house.

Iota Active Chapter

Fall 2015, the month when IOTA would crawl out of the burning pit of despair and agony, and into the light of greatness. Since 2011, KHK IOTA chapter was literally holding on by a thread. From random tenants coming and going, Jesus and I agreed that enough was enough. With persistence we convinced Ryan to contact alumni to let them know we are interested.

This was when the magic happened, Andy showed up to our first ever KHK meeting at the house. He spoke to us about the social, academic, and professional benefits of joining this organization. After a powerful night of knowledge and brotherhood, the foundation was set.

After weeks of waiting, we got word from Andy that BETA would like us over. Ryan, Jesus, Charles, and I embarked on a journey to Minneapolis to the U of M Twin Cities. After seeing how they organized their meeting, and met the DELTA and BETA chapter we were invited over to their house. This was when we were pledged in. The emotion and tension in the air was so thick that it almost suffocated us. Once we accepted our oaths, the energy changed. We witnessed true brotherhood at that point. After we said our goodbyes, it was time to get to work.

Working hard with Ryan and Jesus, we managed to get a group committed to be pledged in. This was a start of a new chapter. We managed to get Darshan Jain, Isaac Durant and Donnell Jones committed and excited along with a couple of other people. After a few regular meeting, the alumni felt that the time was ready. It was time to convert friends into brothers.

The initiation would be compared to being thrown into a lion pit with nothing but a few resources and us, the brothers. We fought emotions, temptations, and worse of all each other. And out of the ashes, a phoenix rose. The omicron II class finally graduated into brotherhood. KHK IOTA will no longer be an urban legend, but a definition of what determination, attitude, and effort will take us.



Iota Pledges, 2015

The battle may have been a victorious one, but the war is far from over. But I couldn't ask for a better group to grow with, build with, and most importantly have fun with. These times will be hard times, but times that we will take to our graves. Images of success that will flash before our eyes in our dying beds, while the last word out of our decaying breaths will be greatest word any of us could say. IOTA.

IOTA Reflections

By Donnell "Kazatsky" Jones

"I joined KHK with a group of engineering students, some I knew and some I did not know. During the initiation period, I got to know a lot more about IOTA and the history of KHK. I got to meet new people during the group meetings and alumni who drove hours to help out during pledge night as well as bi weekly meetings.

While being a part of KHK I felt involved into the organization, which I will be in contact with even after graduation. It is a good experience to be a part of a group of engineering students outside of the engineering building. I do feel that IOTA is a great part of my experience as a student at St. Cloud State University because It allows for me to connect and make lifelong friends within the organization."

By Isaac Durant

"KHK has been a great experience, being able to hang out and relate with likeminded people outside of school is a great environment to make friends. I even went to a Hackathon in Illinois with two other KHK members and we met a member from Delta. It was cool to see KHK is alive all across the Midwest. I enjoy spending time with the brotherhood, planning events and figuring out how we can expand our outreach throughout campus to fellow students. It hasn't been easy reviving the IOTA chapter but the Phoenix has risen from the ashes. Looking forward I know we are here to stay and possible better than ever."

IOTA Alumni Association

After the 2015 NEC convention, Jon Gamble, founder of Iota, was contacted by Scott Woods and Andy Vall about the Iota housing committee that was formed as a result of the convention, as well as other pertinent information regarding the Iota house. Jon rounded up several alumni and began meeting weekly in the spring of 2015.

The Iota Housing Corporation was quickly formed and incorporated in the State of MN and officers were installed: Mike Philippe as president, Sam Durbin as VP, Jon Gamble as Treasurer, and Andy Vall as secretary.

The IHC is still in it's infancy, but is modeling itself after the DHC, and Iota as a whole is seeking to establish a strong 3-sided relationship between the active chapter, the IHC and the IAA, and looks forward to achieving additional milestones this year in Iota's road to reorganization.

IOTA Alumni Association

The IAA had mostly been inactive over much of the last decade, except for several IAA meetings held at the Iota house around 2011, 2012 and 2013 to discuss fraternity and house issues and reorganization of the chapter. As Iota alumni got together in 2015 to form the IHC, efforts were renewed in the summer and fall of 2015 to reorganize Iota, and after a very successful fall recruitment season led primary by Andy Vall, Andy and Dustin Philbrick pinned a strong group of pledges in November 2015 and Iota chapter was soon active again with 7 active members following the fall initiation.

While the IAA has not begun regular meetings yet, the IAA is represented in the weekly IHC meetings and continues to focus heavily on the continued effort of the chapter reorganization, which is aided by the current Iota chapter president, Mo Khalil. The outlook for 2016 is very strong, and the IAA looks forward to a successful spring 2016 recruitment season with IHC and the active chapter, and ultimately toward a stable active membership by the end of 2016.



Alumni pictured, from left to right are, bottom: Andy Vall (secretary, IHC), Mike Philippe (president, IHC), Jon Gamble (treasurer, IHC, founder, Iota chapter), John Steckelberg, Dustin Philbrick, standing: Nick Woodliff, Dennis Edholm (president, IAA), Kyle Pollock, Garrett DeZeeuw