



Society for the Preservation of Greek Housing

NEWSLETTER

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PLEASE, PLEASE CLEAN-UP!

That is the plea from Craig Jackson, assistant Dean in charge of Fraternity Affairs. Many fraternity and sorority houses look sadly less than their best during the summer when hundreds of incoming freshman and their parents visit the campus. The plea is for the houses to employ someone or a yard service to keep the yard up during the summer and to keep trash from taking up residence in your yard. Those houses who stay open during the summer need to remember that a prospective member may be watching your actions as they walk by your house. Certainly their parents will be forming an opinion of the whole Greek system by what they see, **they really are checking you out closely.**

SPGH Dues

The Board of The Society for the Preservation of Greek Housing has altered its dues structure in order to recognize those organizational members who have loyally supported them with their payment of dues consistently from the start of the Society. We are

very thankful for so many members consistent and prompt payment of dues over the last five years.

The cost of membership in the Society is \$300. **And now \$150. Per year after membership in good standing for five consecutive years.** We hope this reduction will encourage you all to become more active in the Society and its goals. ***Dues notices for 1998 were mailed out in early February and are currently due by March 31.***

Benefits of Membership in SPGH

1. Ability to raise tax deductible funds from your alumni for qualified restoration/renovation projects. The Society will provide grants for:

A. Health and safety code requirements, that do not result in the loss of character- defining spaces, features and finishes

B. Major structural rehabilitation or restoration

C. Exterior rehabilitation or restoration

D. Interior restoration or rehabilitation

Grants could be given for ;

- Sprinkler and alarm systems
- Bathroom renovations
- Kitchen fire suppression equipment
- Heating systems
- Enclosed egress stairways
- Porch and patio rehabilitation or restoration
- 2. Help with archiving chapter house blueprints and drawings.
- 3. Reduced cost of research and application for National Register status for your chapter house
- 4. Networking with concerned alumni and university administrators dedicated to preserving Greek life on campus.

Fund-raising

The Society has a committee on Fund-raising who will work with your chapter and alumni to help you set up your package of Fund-raising materials for qualified restoration/renovation projects, which will be tax-deductible to donors.

A service fee is charged on a per check basis as per the following table:

Service fee charged per check on donations to SPGH

3%	\$1- 999
2%	\$1000-49,999
1%	\$50,000-499,999
1/2%	\$500,000 and up

'STANDARDS FOR REHABILITATION'

All SPGH preservation grant applications will be judged with reference to the Secretary of the Interior's "Standards for Rehabilitation" (36 C FR 67).

"Rehabilitation" is defined as the

process of returning a property to a state of utility, through repair or alteration, which makes possible an efficient contemporary use while preserving those portions and features of the property which are significant to its historic, architectural, and cultural values.

The Society will provide you with a copy of the standards if you request them.

In meeting the ten standards set forth by the Secretary of the Interior, the Society will give consideration to the following priority of preservation options.

A. Identifying, retaining, and preserving, the functional and decorative features that are important in defining the overall historic character of the building.

B. Protecting and maintaining features through appropriate surface treatments such as cleaning, rust removal, limited paint removal, and re-application of protective coating systems. Evaluating the overall condition of materials to determine whether more than protection and maintenance are required, that is, if repairs to the features will be necessary.

C. Repairing features by patching, piecing-in, consolidating or otherwise reinforcing the features using recognized preservation methods. Repair may also include the limited replacement in kind- or with compatible substitute material- of those extensively deteriorated or missing parts of features where there are surviving prototypes.

D. Replacing in kind an entire

feature, that is too deteriorated to repair- if the overall form and detailing are still evident- using the physical evidence to guide the new work. If using the same kind of materials is not technically or economically feasible, then a compatible substitute material may be considered.

E.Designing and installing new features when historic features are completely missing. The replacement features may be an accurate restoration using historical, pictorial, and physical documentation; or be a new design that is compatible with the historic character of the building, district, or neighborhood.

F.Alterations or additions should be compatible with the overall design of the building, inconspicuous from the public right- of- way, designed not to damage or obscure character-defining features, and done in a manner that makes clear what is historic and what is new.

University of Nebraska News

The National Register of Historic Places has approved an Historic District for the Greek House Neighborhood at the school in Lincoln, Nebraska. At present Alpha Tau Omega at Nebraska is a member of SPGH and receiving the benefits of membership.

The University of Nebraska Foundation is working closely with Alpha Tau Omega to set up funds within the University of Nebraska Foundation. At present the funds available to donors will likely be funds for preservation, education

and for computer purchase. It is to be presumed that all chapters on the Nebraska campus will also be allowed to set up similar funds within the University's Foundation. This will, of course, increase the possibility of matching funds coming from a potential donor's employer. The University of Nebraska Foundation definitely understands the link between a strong Greek-system and strong support to the University from Greek alumni and they are willing to encourage that link with the formation of these funds.

Serving on the SPGH Board

If you are interested in preserving historic Greek chapter houses , the Society welcomes you to attend our monthly meetings. The Society generally meets on the second Thursday of every month at 4:30 pm in Champaign, Illinois. Please call Terri Dodson, Society Coordinator at 217-352-7162 for more information. Any member organization is welcome to send a representative to any meeting and to put forth a candidate for a position on the Board. In fact, we strongly welcome your participation.

The Treasurer's Report

Since 1 may 1996, the Society has paid out \$339,249.96 in renovation grants. This is almost **one and one half million dollars** since the beginning of the Society. We Know we are helping to make a difference in Greek chapter house preservation !

The Society's end- year balance

was \$325,690.18 income, of which, \$313,364.71 was member designated funds and \$12,254.20 working funds.

Representatives of the Society's Board of Directors would be willing to present the Society's story and answer questions at your house corporation board meeting or alumni association meeting. Contact Duane Frichtl , President, at 217- 384- 6747 or dfrichtl@aol.com.

Members of SPGH

Alpha Delta Phi
Alpha Gamma Delta
Alpha Phi
Alpha Rho Chi
Alpha Tau Omega

Alpha Tau Omega- Nebraska

Beta Sigma Psi

Beta Theta Pi

Chi Omega

Delta Gamma

Delta Phi

Delta Tau Delta

Delta Zeta

Farmhouse

Gamma Phi Beta

Kappa Kappa Gamma

Lambda Chi Alpha

Phi Delta Theta

Phi Kappa Psi

Phi Kappa Sigma

Phi Kappa Tau

Phi Sigma Sigma

Psi Upsilon

Sigma Chi

Sigma Delta Tau

Zeta Beta Tau

All members in good standing!

SPGH

Society for the
Preservation
of Greek Housing
PO Box 2765
Champaign, IL 61825-2765