

July 15, 1996

Dear Brother:

This past weekend a number of Brothers met at the Chapter House and spent a good deal of time working on it. This letter will summarize what we did, in general what a number of us believe needs to be done in the immediate future, and what we need from the Brotherhood. This need is **IMMEDIATE!**

The following were there on one or both days and should be recognized:

Al Bateman	'76	Steve Berns	'81	Jeff Dunning	'95	Bob Horvath	'83
Jim Klein	'78	Greg Kuhn	'80	Terry Kuhn	'83	Gary Matejcek	'82
John Ott	'79	Greg Remec	'85	Mike Robinson	'78	Gary Schmitz	'85

Greg Kuhn's daughters, Megan(11) and Jackie(8), also were there both days and did more general cleaning than the rest of us combined - seriously. Special thanks.

We: Mowed the lawn, trimmed the bushes, pulled weeds, fixed outside faucet which was running continuously onto sidewalk, tore out bunk beds in rooms, tore out unworthy carpeting in some rooms, temporary repair of sagging steps to basement, drywalled over holes in rooms, mudded some of smaller holes in plaster, planned, and generally cleaned.

And I think most of us had some **FUN!!**

The immediate **GOAL** is to get the house ready for as many renters as possible this semester. The **URGENCY** is that by September we will have spent \$15,000 of our available \$28,000 on things we know about, with essentially no funds coming in and a mortgage maturity date of 2/18/97 (about \$25-\$26 K). And much needs to be done "long" term to maintain or recapture the structural integrity of the Chapter House and respond to extensive fire code needs. Without renters in the house it is questionable whether our funds can last another year or if we can get another mortgage to do the items necessary to **KEEP THE HOUSE**. In order to rent it, we need to make the house presentable for showing by early to mid-August, although we can still do a number of things up to the last second. The good news is that at this time it appears as if we can delay action on most of the fire code needs until next year - but we must develop a plan for dealing with them in the future.

We are definitely planning another work weekend for **AUGUST 3 (& 4)**. Other times will help, but need to be coordinated thru Terry Kuhn. Even if we had enough money, contractors in Champaign are billed up for this time of year and offer little hope for immediate help. In all honesty, the time for talking and opinions on what we need to do is past and what we need is (money &) serious workers with the following skills:

- A#1 is somebody who can install and especially finish drywall.
- Carry furniture from 3rd floor dorm to basement
- Painting - Bring equipment and any leftover paint you may have (neutral colors better - small cans can paint closets).
- If you have some 12' wide x minimum 12' carpeting remnants in decent shape, we can use them.
- General cleaning and yardwork

Initiation of the three postulants mentioned in the Crow News is scheduled for August 24, 1996. Let's show them what a Fraternity should be.

I am sending this plea primarily to some of the Brothers near my era and for whom I have addresses (list attached). Please make a few phone calls and try to get some of your era involved, especially in the Chicago area.

Please contact me at the address below or call Terry Kuhn at (217)352-6649, Andy Kosowsky (312)828-4214, Mark Bouckaert (708)393-6588 or Greg Remec at (708)357-4611 for more information or to offer your services.

Some may say that we are crying "wolf", but I will take that bet. If I didn't think our goal was possible, with your help, I wouldn't waste my time.

Efraternally Yours,

Jim
 Jim Klein, Class of '78
 8044 Wilson Terrace
 Springfield, Illinois 62707
 (217)529-6359

*I plan on being @
 house sometime weekend
 of 7/20-21 for meeting &
 will be there also
 7/27-28 for work.*

P.S. With this letter, I am offering my services on the Alumni Board at a minimum on an emergency basis. I am planning an organized and staged weekend on August 3. **Please help!**

