

# “Road to the Rock”

## Spring 2014 Initiation Trip

**Pictured on Right:** The Rock of Sigma Nu located in the front of the walkway at Sigma Nu Headquarters. This is what the trip is based around and it will be the first destination upon arrival.



## Pilgrimage to Lexington: April 11-April 13

“To believe in the Life of Love, To walk in the way of Honor, To Serve in the Light of the Truth, This is the Life, the Way, and the Light of Sigma Nu. This is the creed of our Fraternity.” A simple multi-line saying for most, but for the brothers of Sigma Nu, it is everything that we stand for in life. Our 3 founders instilled these values over 145 years ago in Lexington, Virginia – hence our pilgrimage there to reaffirm our vows. They believed that a true man should demonstrate these characteristics on a daily basis. The Fraternity is bigger than any one individual and we believe that through teamwork, effective communication, leadership, and of course a little fun every now and then, our chapter has the potential to become a Rock Chapter in 2016.

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## Brief Calendar

April 11-13	Road to the Rock trip
April 25-27	Formal
April 26	Commanders' Dinner
May 2/5-9	Last day of classes/Finals
August 18	First day of Fall semester
September 13	GSU at Georgia Tech*
October 11	<u>Sigma Nu Homecoming</u> , 25 <sup>th</sup> House Anniversary, and the Rededication of our House
October 25	GSU at Georgia State*

\*away game Tailgate Party opportunities

“The more we have to look forward to in life, the more we realize what we have to live for”

Regent Charlie Eitel, EE 1096

## Year in Review

The Theta Kappa chapter has had an eventful year to say the least. In Fall 2013, our Fraternity started with 19 brothers. Manpower was down but the morale and the drive was soaring. Through an awesome recruitment, our chapter was able to induct 19 men into the candidate process. Doubling our manpower did wonders: bringing increased revenue, expanding our network, building our chapter, and of course guiding men to an opportunity of a lifetime.

The Fall candidate program was 8 weeks long and in late 2013 we initiated 17 brothers into the brotherhood of Sigma Nu. During the fall semester we were able to raise \$7276 for the Multiple Sclerosis foundation through our ΣNd MS Benefit concert. The chapter was in a rebuilding process and we were able to prove our dedication through positive change. By the end of the semester, the Theta Kappa chapter was able to record the 3<sup>rd</sup> highest GPA within all 17 Fraternities, and it was number 1 on Greek Row. Our chapter GPA was a 2.97 and was .24 higher than the non-male Greek average.

Currently in Spring 2014, we are continuing the march forward. We recruited 9 men and they are on their way to being initiated on April 12, 2014. The candidates are almost 6 weeks deep in the process, only 2 shy of initiation. (Read more on the Current Candidate class on page 3) Looking forward, we are gearing up for a strong 2014 Fall Recruitment. With manpower continuing to climb, recruitment begins to turn into an actual process instead of just a “rush”. We are always promoting 365 recruitment, so please if you know anyone attending Georgia Southern in the fall, reach out with a referral. It would mean a great deal to our chapter.

Our Commander, Eric Degen, ΘK 811, is looking forward to one of our newest traditions – “the Commanders’ Dinner” on April 26; he hopes to meet all past commanders there. [www.SigmaNuGSU.com/commanders-dinner](http://www.SigmaNuGSU.com/commanders-dinner).



### Headquarters in Lexington, VA

The Headquarters shrine sits at the highest elevation in Lexington, VA. The town is approximately 8 hours away from the Theta Kappa chapter in Statesboro, GA. The Theta Kappa chapter is the 171st chapter in the Sigma Nu Fraternity.

Please visit our website at:

[www.SigmaNuGSU.com](http://www.SigmaNuGSU.com)

and visit us on Facebook at:

[www.facebook.com/groups/SigmaNuGSU](https://www.facebook.com/groups/SigmaNuGSU)



**L to R:** Taylor Harris, Ryan Wendt, Nick Masters, John Harrison, John Gee, Grant Portwood, Dylan Holloway, Bryan Taylor, and Brandon Riley.

**Center:** Tony Fair (“the Godfather”), ΘK 9

## LEAD Session 2: The History

No one can mistake an interaction with Mr. Tony Fair. A very blunt individual, Mr. Tony will always tell you how it is. In this day and time, these old school ways are fading. Not with him of course, and it is great to know there is always someone to talk with who won’t sugar coat anything. The chapter’s nickname for him is the Godfather, as he has seen every individual initiated into this chapter and has the heart to care for every single one of them.

## LEAD, Community Service, and the Candidate program

In the picture seen on the right, the candidates are completing one of their community service days at Habitat for Humanity's Restore. Through 5 and a half weeks, the 9 candidates have completed 144 community service hours as a class and are only 18 hours away from meeting their number for initiation. Some of their hours were spent with Tony, working on a Saturday afternoon at his place. Because of their hard work, Tony pledged to donate \$500 towards our trip to Lexington. Continuing on the Spring 2014 Candidate class, the candidates are exceeding all expectations. Through 5 candidate tests, 2 rounds of Brothers visits, individual academic meetings, involvement in additional organizations, 9 facilitated LEAD sessions (this past Sunday was Brother Jeff Kinlaw, ΘK 282), completing the online portion of the LEAD program, understanding chapter operations and history, attending and participating in intermural sports, community service, the oh so fun Greek Life EDU online program, multiple lunches or dinners with their Big Brother, LEAD hours, study hours, workshops to develop better leadership skills, and of course making great grades ; the candidates have truly undergone a transformation from 9 individuals into one team ready to join something bigger. I started the semester with expectations of a class GPA of a 3.0, and the class will be there if not higher.



*LEAD Chair:*

Nick Efird, ΘK 819



"The picture seen on the left was taken at one of our recent LEAD Phase 2 sessions. The day consisted of 3 sessions led by alumni: Larry Sands (ΘK 325), Bill Geddy (ΘK 219), and Tyler Schulte (ΘK 718). The workshop was beneficial and we are strongly moving forward with the program." Nick Efird



## Trip Itinerary:

### Friday, April 11th

3:00 pm	Depart from Statesboro, GA on the charter bus
11:00 pm	Arrive in Lexington VA - the Chapter will stay in the historic "Carriage House" on the Sigma Nu grounds

### Saturday April 12

9:00 am	Rise and Shine!
9:30 - 10:15 am	Tour of Sigma Nu HQs by Alex Taylor & staff
10:15 - 11:00 am	Teambuilders!
11:00 am - Noon	All Chapter LEAD Module B (REMIX!) Session 4 & 7
Noon - 1:00 pm	Lunch on your own
1:00 - 1:30 pm	Walk through Historic Lexington and then through Washington and Lee University
1:30 - 2:30 pm	Tour of Virginia Military Institute & grounds
2:30 - 3:15 pm	Tour of VMI Museum
3:15 - 5:30 pm	Initiation Prep
<b>6:00 pm</b>	<b>Initiation of Spring 14 Candidate Class</b>
7:30 pm - until	Dinner and free time

### Sunday, April 13th

9:00 am	Get up
9:00 am - Noon	Clean/Pack up
Noon	Departure

Donations are welcomed graciously. This trip is a once in a lifetime opportunity for the chapter and we feel that it will boost the morale and drive of the chapter moving forward. We have designed and uploaded a shirt for sale to all. We want to keep alumni, parents, and family involved as much as possible and this is a great opportunity to purchase and represent your Sigma Nu love. You are able to purchase shirts with PayPal or a credit card and are able to get the shirt (or shirts) delivered straight to your doorstep. The shipping fee is a flat rate, whether you order 1 or 4 shirts.



### Road to The Rock

#### Fundraiser Shirt

\$29.99 + shipping

This custom shirt will be available until Sunday, April 13 for purchase. The link is provided at the bottom of page 5. All proceeds go towards helping the chapter fund the trip. These are awesome shirts and it will be something you can keep for years. We know how much you love shirts, and you won't find another one like this one out there.

## Wrap-Up

Next time you see one of the candidates, or maybe brothers by that point, go up and ask them about yourself. Most brothers, going all the way back to our first commander, brother Robert Williams (ΘK 258), are known and how they have helped our chapter. They even know why brother Williams wasn't initiated first and the year he returned to become initiated. I want to personally thank all of the LEAD facilitators and Brother Ed Hurst, all whom have helped me through the candidate program. Also, without the help from all brothers, family, and parents, our chapter wouldn't be climbing back to the top of Greek Life at Georgia Southern but instead we would be nonexistent. One of my main goals while at GSU is to revamp involvement with alumni. I want to be able to provide you with newsletters, pictures, websites, t-shirts, shout outs, and anything else you may need to know how our chapter is doing currently. I want to wish everyone a safe and relaxing summer and plan to come back in the fall even stronger. I want to thank you up front for your support with the "Road to the Rock" initiation trip. Without you all, we wouldn't be able to embark on the journey. We do have a few seats available for alumni to make the pilgrimage with us. Please feel free to reach out to me with any questions regarding the trip or the chapter. Soon enough, we will welcome 9 more brothers into the Theta Kappa Chapter of Sigma Nu. Thank you.



### Fundraiser Shirt Link:

<http://www.collegehillcustomthreads.com/products/georgia-southern-sigma-nu-road-to-the-rock-alumni-shirts>

Fraternally,



**Adam F. Clay**

ΘK 810

Marshal

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... And the Theta Kappa Chapter

