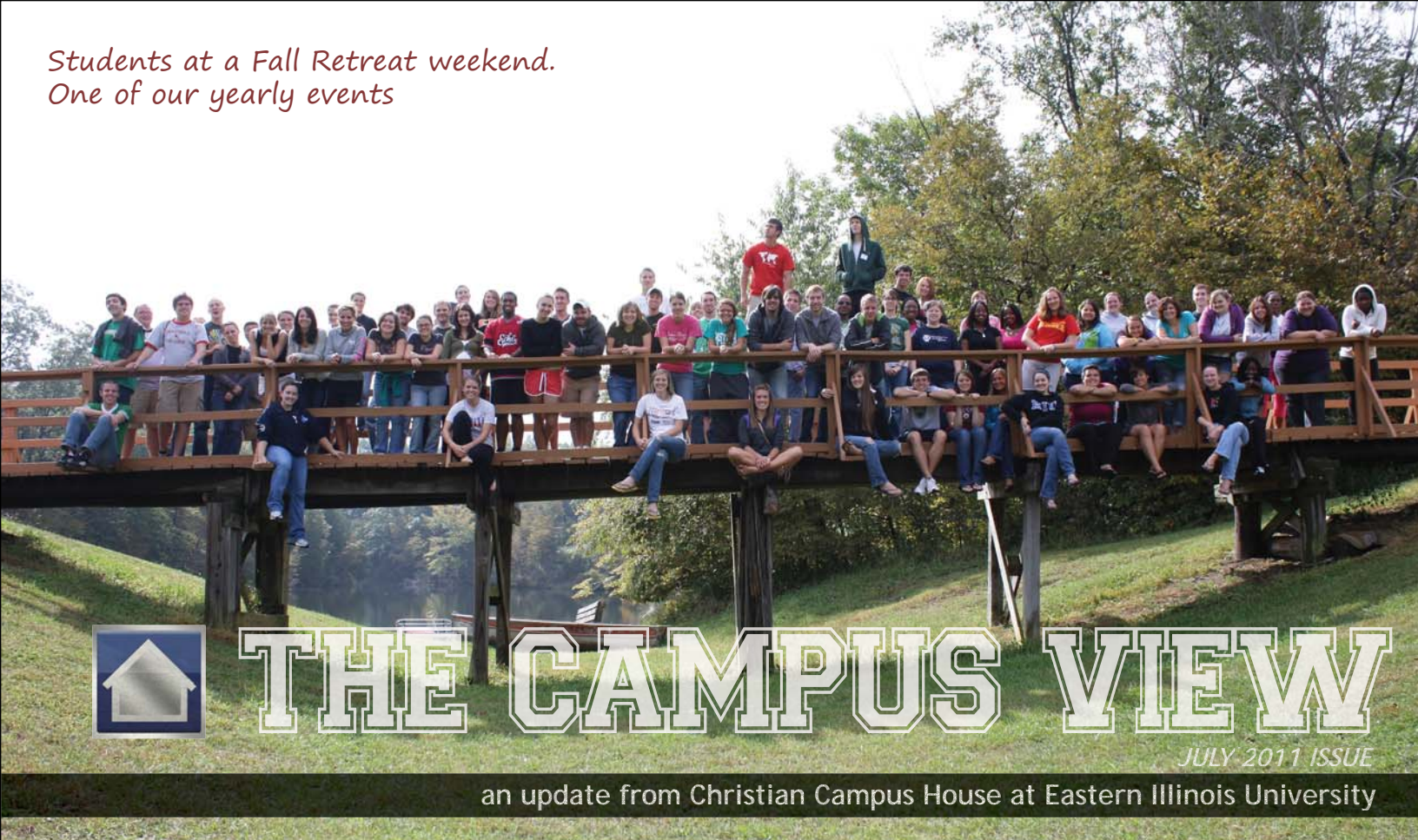


Students at a Fall Retreat weekend.
One of our yearly events



THE CAMPUS VIEW

JULY 2011 ISSUE

an update from Christian Campus House at Eastern Illinois University

BURNING A MORTGAGE

APRIL, 2011 PROVED to be an incredibly special month, because Christian Campus House reached a huge milestone. Our staff and board of directors have labored for the past seven years—working hard to encourage churches, alumni, parents, and other friends of this ministry to help us achieve an important goal. That goal? ... To pay off our new building mortgage in 2011.

In February we still owed nearly \$40,000. Our board wanted to be able to “burn the mortgage” at our Annual Banquet on April 9th. So, they went to work on a final drive to the finish line to raise the last funds necessary to get out of debt. And I am thrilled to be able to report to you that—with your help—we achieved that goal.

Through the generosity and sacrifices of people like you this ministry is now officially out of debt. The mortgage WAS burned ceremonially at the Annual Banquet. The crowd cheered. Many of us breathed a sigh of relief. It really does feel good to be debt-free. It feels very good just to think that by paying off our debt in 7 years instead of the 20-year term of our loan, we saved well over \$200,000.00 in interest! And, it feels good to know that we

now only need to concern ourselves with the financial health of our general fund.

Now that we are debt-free we can begin two important processes...

The first of these is to restore fiscal health to our operating budget. Without the constant drain of debt, this should be a goal much more easily grasped.

The second process is to cast a vision for this ministry's future. Much of what is to come for CCH will revolve around staffing issues. For example, we would like to be able to provide health insurance for our full-time interns. In addition, we know that the next decade will require some wisdom from God as we add ministry staff and shift some roles as we segue toward my eventual transition into retirement (whatever that means!). No, I am not ready to retire yet. But it IS a subject we have to begin to plan for and cast a vision for long before we reach that milestone. We need to cast a vision and begin to implement a plan for

what the leadership of this ministry will look like 10-15 years down the road.

Many of you have been giving to the building fund. That fund actually now no longer exists. We humbly ask you to continue to financially support us as we work toward a healthy financial picture and as we cast this vision for our future.

Thank you for your prayers, your financial support, your notes of encouragement... and for being a friend of our ministry.



Students using the new lounge, an integral part of the new building, during our fall semester Bash Week

BOARD PERSPECTIVE



Mallory Sidarous
EIU Alumn & current board member

As a student, alumna, and now board member I continue to be amazed by the work God is doing in the life of college students at Eastern Illinois.

My CCH story begins in August 2003, when I arrived at EIU as a freshman. I quickly became involved at CCH. I went to Bash Week events, joined a Family Group, and my sophomore year was asked to serve on COM. As a member of COM, I deeply valued my relationships with fellow student leaders, staff, and peers in every life group I had the privilege of being part of. My experience leading life groups was humbling and each group provided a different perspective – I consider it a privilege that I had the opportunity to serve in this capacity, as those groups are responsible for a great deal of my personal growth in college. By the time I was a senior, I had an overwhelming sense of ownership for this ministry. Being able to influence the day-to-day activities and programs that are part of the minis-

try was unique to my time as a student. I graduated from EIU in May 2007 and made the transition to an alumna. Honestly, it was an odd feeling. I imagine I may have felt a little like a new retiree. I was very excited for this next generation of CCH'ers and the impact they were making on Eastern's campus, but it was different to only know what was going on through the newsletter or Facebook (come on, it's true). However, I discovered value in contributing to the ministry in a different way – regularly praying for the staff and students, giving financially, encouraging students to go to Eastern (Go Panthers!) and check out the Campus House. In October 2010, my husband and I had the chance to help cook at Fall Retreat. The students were enthusiastic, encouraging, and had a passion for the Lord. They made a "campfire" using cell phone lights in the dining room, because they did not want the rain to prevent them from hearing the testimony of their fellow student. Fall Retreat as an alumna was just as great as it was when I was a student!

In January 2011, I began my first term as a CCH Board Member. In this role, my sense of ownership has evolved to include a higher level of responsibility. As a board member, I contribute to the big picture and long-term planning. Instead of this year's Bash Week, I now think about Bash Week five years from now and what resources have to be in place to prepare. It is an experience for which I am very thankful. And to those students I witnessed make a "campfire" out of cell phones, your commitment encourages my spirit. No matter how unique each group that enters the Campus House, they have the same passionate love for our Savior. And I am lucky to be able to continue being part of that passion.

Meet The Interns 2011-2012

Hometown
Rochester, IL

"I'm back for a second year as an intern and I'm looking forward to what God has in store."



Seth Passfield

Hometown
Casey, IL

"I enjoy building relationships and watching God work in every-day life."



Lyndsey Kirk

Hometown
Dallas, TX

"Serving others with the abilities Christ has given me, gives me great joy!"



Josh Grondin



BASH WEEK SCHEDULE

ALL EVENTS ARE FREE AND MEET AT CCH

THURSDAY, AUGUST 18

ICE CREAM FOR TIE DYE @ 6:30 PM

FRIDAY, AUGUST 19

MIDNIGHT MOVIE MADNESS @ 11:59 PM

SATURDAY, AUGUST 20

ULTIMATE FRISBEE @ 2 PM

SUNDAY, AUGUST 21

WORSHIP @ 10:30 AM

PIZZA LUNCH @ NOON

MONDAY, AUGUST 22

BURGER BASH @ 6 PM

TUESDAY, AUGUST 23

BLOCK PARTY @ 6 PM

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 24

BIBLE STUDY @ 7 PM

ANNUAL BANQUET

date for next year

MARCH 31, 2012