



The Pine Press

Student Housing Corporation

June 27, 2001

THANKS MSU-SHC!

Volume H, Issue 3
Summer 2001

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February fire ignites co-op, yet also sparks co-op movement for Madison students

Tragedy struck Ofek Shalom, a thirteen-member house that forms part of the Madison Community Cooperative (MCC) at 4 a.m. on February 21, 2001. — all escaped safely.

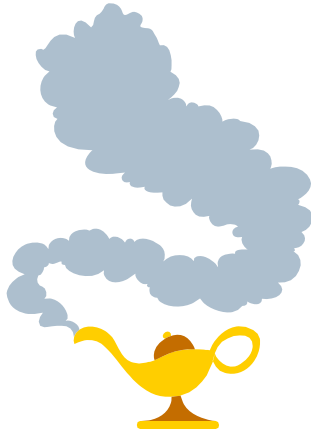
This is the second fire to hit the North American co-op movement in a two-month period.

Co-ops throughout the United States sent donations to assist in re-building the ravaged

home. MSU's SHC received a postcard in early June from the students thanking us for our \$300 donation.

The latest news is that they have used the funds to purchase a house, as they cannot currently rebuild on their old site.

We wish them luck in their new endeavor, and were glad to be a part of the co-operative movement, Principle Number Six.



Be sure to buy enough toilet paper to keep your house stocked at all times. Otherwise, you will be living with very unhappy housemates.



Corrections from May Issue

Yeah! Either there were no mistakes, or every-one was too lazy to report any misconceptions printed in the last issue of the Pine Press.

Hopefully it was the former. Keep reading and send any corrections to pinepress@hotmail.com

Classic genie joke appears again

Three guys, a Spartan, a Wolverine and a Buckeye are out walking along the beach together one day. They come across a lantern and a Genie pops out of it.

"I will give you each one wish, that's three wishes total," says the Genie.

The Buckeye says, "I am studying to be a farmer, my dad was a farmer and my son will also farm. I want the land in the valley to forever be fertile."

With a blink of the Genie's eye, 'FOOM' the land in the valley was made forever fertile.

The Wolverine was amazed, so he said, "I want a wall around Ann Arbor, so that no one can come into our precious city." Again, with a blink of the Genie's eye, 'POOF' there was a huge wall around Ann Arbor.

The Spartan asks, "I'm very curious. Please tell me more about this wall."

The Genie explains, "Well, it's about 150 feet high, 50 feet thick and nothing can get in or out."

The Spartan says, "Fill it up with water."

Wondering where the money goes

Act 1, Scene 1

It's 4:50pm on June 4th and Betsy and Eddie are running through the halls of the Student Services Building, trying to get to the SHC office before the door shuts. They're nauseous and annoyed. They were both partying at the bar last night and woke up just minutes ago with a terrible hangover. Now they are not only fighting the parking police to avoid a ticket in the staff parking lot, but fighting time to avoid a 5% late charge that will be added to their balance tomorrow morning.

Betsy Bower-If we don't get there in time, do you realize that you will pay more than I



will for your late charge because my house has cheaper rent?

Eddie Elsworth-Are you kidding? This is a co-op, you drunkard. We all pay the same rent.

Betsy Bower- Well, you're wrong. I only pay \$7 a day to live in my house!! You pay about \$9!!

Eddie Elsworth-I think that puking didn't do as much good for you as it could have. Maybe if you hurl in the bathroom a couple more times, that cloud will deteriorate.

Betsy Bower- Well, before you spread your ego too big, let me set you straight on a couple things. We both pay the same assessment- mortgage, physical development and stuff like that, but your house pays for other costs that the entire corporation doesn't split.

Eddie Elsworth-For example.....

Betsy Bower-...Like cable for example, we don't have cable.

Summer sun keeping you from this fun?

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

First meeting down, six more to go! Become part of the decision process along with your house board representative

Summer session meetings are Thursdays at 7 p.m. in 328A of Student Services.

July 19 August 2, 16

E-mail Megan Burt (President) with any questions or concerns at burtmega@msu.edu.

STU

In order to complete a full recovery, Stu will not be working on Fridays during the summer.

JOAN

Headed to Chicago for a NASCO Properties

Board Meeting, Joan will be out of the office July 6-9. The office will still be open, however, as Gavin will be in town.

INSPECTIONS

July 5: Hedrick (10 a.m.); Ferency (11 a.m.)

July 12: New Community (3:30 p.m.)

CO-OP OPEN HOUSE

Thursday, July 12, at Phoenix (5-7 p.m.)

Eat, drink, chat, and tour houses. Invite all your friends who still need a place to live, or come meet current and new members!

OTHER

If you have an important date, let us know! E-mail pinepress@hotmail.com.



Check out the festivals that East Lansing has to offer this summer. You can get free food and see some great musical acts!

Numerous numbers for your noggin'

Atlantis	207 Bogue	337-2762
Bower	127 Whitehills	351-4490
Elsworth	711 W. Grand River	337-3236
Ferency	146 Collingwood	332-0846
—		
Hedrick	140 Collingwood	332-0844
Miles	152 Collingwood	337-3990
New Community	425 Ann	351-3820
Orion	501 M.A.C.	332-2517
—		
Phoenix	239 Oakhill	351-3713
Raft Hill	420 Evergreen	337-2977
Shadowood	505 M.A.C.	332-3844
Toad Lane	415 Ann	332-3973

(Continued from page 2)

So, we don't pay for it. Your house, alone, pays for 500+ channels that you order every month. The rest of the corporation doesn't pay for your cable bill, just *your* house. Our house prefers to spend our money on an Eco-Friendly bug killer or organic food, not a television set!!

Eddie Elsworth-You mean you missed the NBA Championship basketball game last night? For what? Our environment. Yeah right. I bet you were *really* playing foosball, weren't you?

Betsy Bower-Foosball...Oh, you mean that thing in the

basement of my house? I also wondered what that did.

Eddie Elsworth-Maybe I'll come over your house tonight and teach you. *Wink. Wink.*

To be continued...



Mark your calendars now for this year's NASCO Institute: November 2nd—4th

NASCO conference a great experience

By: Amber Bardon

NASCO, for those of you who didn't attend the New Member Orientation, stands for North American Students of Co-operation.

This institute is located in our very own Ann Arbor and every year they have a convention where co-ops from all over the country come together to be, well, co-operative.

I attended last year's conference and had a fabulous time. It was an all weekend event and you got the lovely opportunity of being put in an

ICC co-op, or one of Ann Arbor's co-op houses.

Seminars are held throughout the weekend on a variety of topics ranging from anarchy to how to manage your house funds.

I had to attend the anarchy one, of course (just to see what this anarchy stuff is all about) but I also visited a community-housing project located in Ann Arbor, called Sunflower.

My favorite lecture was on eco-villages. I never knew anything about them before but I have now decided that there can be no other place for

me and my conscience to reside in, in the future.

So, basically that weekend had a big impact on my life.

NASCO provides three meals a day during the conference with vegan and vegetarian options. And, best of all, if you decide to attend this year's NASCO conference in the fall, ITS ABSOLUTELY FREE!!

I know that I sound like a "hundred percent guaranteed" infomercial, but really, this is an opportunity any interested co-op should not miss. SHC pays for all costs of the weekend, up to the first 15 people.

Elsworth used to have a traditional steak and beans dinner after learning house GPAs. The upper half ate steak, while the lower half ate beans!

Party German style this summer

By: Andrea Hewitt

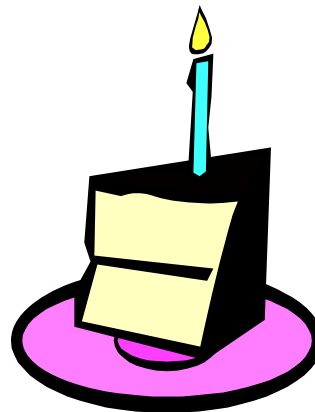
First, you need a German who is celebrating his birthday, obviously.

Then, some of his German friends are needed, three will do.

Next, all-American cuisine is needed: hamburgers (grilled to a lovely crisp), hot dogs, and all the condiments (ketchup, mayo, mustard, etc.). Baked beans are also a commodity and, finally, salad.

After this, you need some Americans to keep with the all-American theme, including girlfriends and friends and fellow housemates at Phoenix.

The finishing touch is enough beer for all and only the



best, Labatt Blue and Beck's.

The location was Phoenix, and Chris was celebrating his 24th birthday. He had fifty hamburgers and fifty hot dogs, so no one went home hungry and most were stuffed.

The beer was flowing and

good (okay, not highly philosophical but good) conversation was constant, except when people were stuffing their faces.

The Americans learned important German phrases, which will be key to their survival when they visit Germany (or so they were told).

The barbeque was a great party, many pictures were taken and the food was as American as you can get.

To top it off, the birthday cupcakes had red, white and blue frosting and sprinkles. To end the evening, after everyone had their share of mosquito bites (a sure sign of a true barbeque), they headed out on the town.

Read Roy's column for an update on the maintenance issues for this summer...

By: Roy Jorgensen

Summer is a beautiful time even in Michigan—why? Cause its summer you foo'!

Many are without classes or only have a light load, and hopefully most of old man winter is behind us. In the midst of all this ACTUAL sunlight, we must start to think about things... things like YOUR home. The winter and maybe some neglect during the hectic academic year have made the house seem a little dingy, drab, maybe even trashed. This is where your wonderful maintenance persons and I come in.

We wish you to be proud of your homes. We want all our homes to look pretty. Why? Well ... do you really want to live in a rat hole? (rent might be cheaper) NO OF COURSE NOT SILLY rOy! Rat holes are for Ohio State students. We all need to learn a lesson from Howland house, one of the independent Co-Op's in our beautiful town.

Howland house has part of

their house condemned from decay and inadequate maintenance. Although something that horrible could hardly happen here, strange things can happen due to carelessness and unforeseen problems.

Even though we would deal with this problem quickly before the top floors of your house are condemned, we would like to minimize all those and bring up the general cleanliness and "pretty-izing" our homes so that others

will appreciate them and move in too, thus CHEAPER RENT!

Another project to make things much nicer is Ethernet in ALL the houses next summer! Phoenix brought a motion to the Board which has set a precedent for all other houses wishing to get Ethernet soon, which passed!

Also we are excited and want you to know we have a unique opportunity to purchase the "old" residence of Sigma Chi on 729 Grand river right across from our offices and the BEE UTEE FULL MSU campus. This is a wonderful location and a solid house built to

house the not so gentle antics of Sigma Chi back in 1982. This would be a wonderful edition to our Co-Op community.

Licensed for 45 people we are planning on 30 to fill the house (there are 33 parking spots, too, WOO HOO!).

It's a very roomy house but not set up in a maze to lose you, it still feels like a home. The double are basically two connected rooms which used to be triples, giving roommates enough room to avoid having to choke each other. There are also many singles too, for those who would like more privacy.

This purchase is really up to you, the membership, who own this corporation.

If you want more fellow co-ops, more sweet locations, and more primo spots to choose from and help our community grow then you need to become informed about this *get involved*. Tell others too.

If We (the PD committee, EC and the Board) think we have a great house to acquire. Then you need to cast your vote in the referendum and tell us what you *want!*

This purchase is really up to you, the membership, who own this corporation.

All members of MSU SHC *must* attend at least one New Member Orientation. Be on the lookout for one this fall!



By: *Jon Muzzall*

Stephanie walked up the driveway from the house to the garage, got a shovel, and walked toward the little pine in the back of the yard. Bees buzzed, the neighbor's flowers were in bloom, and the breeze blew. It was still morning and it was warm without being hot.

She began digging. She hit a root in one place—probably belonging to the big maple in the center of the yard—and was not strong enough to break it. She began again a few feet away.

The neighbor-girl, who was a little younger and who lived behind Stephanie, came

up to the fence.

"Watcha doin'?"

"Diggin a hole." She didn't look up from her task.

"How come?"

"Ol Bailey got hit by a truck."

"Oh. He sure did bark a lot."

"I know."

"How come *you* gotta do it?"

"I don't know."

The neighbor-girl, after wandering a little in her own yard, returned to her house. Stephanie continued her digging in heavy-breathed silence. When she finished, she smacked the dirt off of her hands. Then she walked back into the garage and got the

black garbage bag that had Bailey in it. She carried Bailey as best she could to the pine tree and dumped him in the hole. Stephanie crossed herself and covered him up. She put the shovel back in the garage and washed her hands off at the outside spigot.

She walked into the kitchen through the back door and encountered her father flicking cigarette ash into the sink.

"All done, Steph?"

She nodded.

"Thanks."

"I know." She continued through the kitchen to her room.

Have a story to tell? Send it to pinepress@hotmail.com.

Submissions for next Pine Press are due July 10th!



Caption describing picture or graphic.

Our author, Jon Muzzall, and two other New Community members, Hope Johnson and Julie Bagley, before heading to an 80s party two weeks ago.

Horoscopes

By: *Madame DeFarge*
Aka *Fred Longacre*

If Your Birthday is Today: Who cares about you? People should be buying me gifts.

Aries (March 21-April 19): Remember the importance of positive thinking—even after you see your report card.

Taurus (April 20-May 20): Whatever you want from life, it's too late.

Gemini (May 21-June 20): A jug of wine, a loaf of bread, and a book of poem beneath your feet—for god sake, clean your bed off.

Cancer (June 21-July 22): I would change your

ATM password if I was you—probably to 2244—and leave your ATM card just lying around.

Leo (July 23-August 22): The Fourth of July is coming up, and the fireworks are fun, but don't try to catch them with a mitt.

Virgo (August 23-September 22): The Madame sees a tall, dark, man in your future. He takes your hand in his and says "You have the right to remain silent."

Libra (September 23-October 22): If you can't be with the one you love, go to Ricks.

Scorpio (October 23-November 21): Michael Bol-

ton CD's make great Frisbees.

Sagittarius (November 22-December 21): Please stop sending Brittany Spears all those letters—the one's written in crayon are scary.

Capricorn (December 22-January 19): My mother always told me that if you can't say anything nice about an astrological sign, say nothing, so....

Aquarius (January 20-February 18): Drink a laarge cup of coffee this morning—your going to need it.

Pisces (February 19-March 20): Watch your step when your out walking. Don't read the pap....oh, you



Catch the latest news on your spiritual circle by reading Horoscopes by Madame LeFarge.

TRAVELS... of Ms. Erin Wright of Bower

Erin's family has been on the waiting list for 11 (eleven) years to take a private raft trip down the Colorado River. Her aunt and uncle are acting as river guides and she promises to keep us updated of as many twists and turns as possible!

Dear Fellow Coopers,

As it proves impossible to purchase a postcard anywhere West of Illinois — I have resigned to writing on this classy hotel notepad. I am a Bowerite on LOA, trying to fulfill my education officer duties by submitting a snail mail chronicle of my journey to raft down the Colorado River. As we leave our motel room on our second day of

driving to Arizona in my Mom's overstuffed mini van, I slip further into my introspective bubble.

Taking a family vacation at the age of 22 feels weird, uncomfortable even. Yet, it also feels reminiscent of the days when life was simple and a car trip with my family was

the height of my summer vacation. This trip also is charged with the familiar emotional rawness that comes with extended periods of time with ones family. I soothe my tender emotions with thoughts of my other family — my boyfriend Loren, my friends and roommates— the family





Mission Statement

Our cooperative principles promote quality housing and services. As individuals we are empowered through democratic participation to create a community equally accessible to all. As an organization we are committed to expand the Cooperative movement.

June 27, 2001

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WE'RE ON THE WEB!
WWW.MSU.EDU/~COOP

Erin Wright, cont.

that I have chosen for myself.

But here I sit with my "real" family — tied to me by blood and marriage. Don McLean's American Pie comes on the radio, and as my mom, stepbrother and I

sing along,. I settle into my seat. I have decided to succumb to whatever emotions and experiences this journey will provide.

Paddle on!

Erin Wright...

Take inventory of all your furniture— desks, dressers, beds! Occupied or not.

SHC has just purchased new dressers, which it will have available for pick-up by those co-op members without dressers.

Contact Roy Jorgensen for more information!

Furniture swap to be coming soon!

Officers and Staff of SHC

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