

DIN Scholarship

By: Megan Henderson

The oldest fraternity on the Emory & Henry campus has found another way to give back to the students.

Dom-I-Necher started a scholarship fund last spring in honor of Virginia Delegate and 1957 graduate of Emory & Henry College, Joe Johnson. The scholarship's official name is the Joseph P. Johnson Jr. scholarship, and will be awarded to one male rising sophomore. The scholarship amount is \$1,000.

Dom-I-Necher is working to raise \$25,000 so the scholarship may be endowed and thus handed out every year that Emory & Henry is in existence. All the donations were collected from their Dom-I-Nicher alumni.

Each spring on Emory & Henry's Award Day Dom-I-Necher's scholarship will be awarded by Emory & Henry College to a male selected by the fraternity who displays their values of honesty, integrity, and dignity, after the scholarship has been endowed. Dom-I-Necher brothers Mark Robertson and Carter Aylor first developed the idea of the scholarship and later the fraternity decided to honor Johnson.

"He [Johnson] played an integral role in helping to re-found the fraternity in 2005-2006 and we are ever grateful for that." Robertson said. Johnson contributed a \$15,000 donation to the scholarship fund to push the Dom-I-Necher's closer to their \$25,000 goal for endowment. The

scholarship also thanks Johnson for his continued involvement in the fraternity. All of the members of the fraternity look up to Johnson.

“For example, after the tornado in Glade Spring two springs ago, Delegate Johnson heard that one of our brothers had parked on the shoulder of the interstate to help the tornado victims. He promptly sent that brother a check to reimburse him for the towing costs. Obviously his generosity with regard to the scholarship is evidence that it deserves to be named in his honor.” Robertson also said.

Johnson has served in Virginia’s House of Delegates since 1990 and lives in Abingdon, still serving his community. According to Aylor Johnson is delighted that the fraternity is giving back to the Emory & Henry students even after being absent from the campus for 36 years.

“The Dom-I-Necher fraternity believes that he [Johnson] is worthy of this honor due to his commitment of public service and demonstrating that you are a Dom-I-Necher brother for life. He [Johnson] told us last week that we should ‘never forget where you come from and never forget Emory & Henry College.’” Aylor said.

As of the fifth of September the Dom-I-Necher fraternity had raised \$17,085 toward the \$25,000 they need for the scholarship to be endowed. The fraternity wants to continue to give back to the Emory & Henry campus and hopes to have the scholarship endowed as soon as possible.