HISTORY OF HOUSING DAY

There’s only one week until Spring Break (current 10 day forecast: 5 days of snow-happy spring everyone!), but there’s still one major milestone of the Harvard calendar before then—Housing Day! For all of the new freshmen joining us in the dining hall this week, congratulations, both for getting placed in the best house and for successfully navigating your way here from the Yard! For the upperclassmen, it’s worth recounting the history of the process that led to the fair institution that is Upper Classmen Houses as they are today.

10,000 BC—Early humans become the first known group to employ randomly assigned houses as a coming-of-age ritual. Groups were approached in their caves by early tribes and told which different cave they would be living in the following year. The process was believed to have been discontinued for a variety of reasons, among them the large casualties sustained from both freezing on the long trek from the pre-historic Quad and heavy mammoth traffic around the River Caves.

55 BC—Disaster occurs when Rome attempts to renovate all of its residential houses simultaneously, leading to a shortage in swing space housing. This directly leads to Julius Caesar’s conquests, which began as an attempt to annex more temporary housing.

1600s AD—The British Empire adopts a similar system to Housing Day to fill their newly acquired colonies. Suspicions about the randomness of the process arise though when all the Puritans are coincidentally placed in Massachusetts, and all the convicts are sent to Australia.

1884—The world’s first skyscraper is completed. Top Harvard scientists immediately begin researching this new technology in an effort to repurpose it for House use. These efforts culminate in 1960 with the completion of Lev Towers.

Continued…

HOUSE EVENTS

3/10 8:30 pm Masters Open House
3/12 7:00 pm House Yoga
3/13 7:00 pm Rising Rabbit Revelry
3/14 9:00 am Deadline to enter Junior Lottery!

MYSTERY MOVIE QUOTE

“I know now why you cry.”

Last Week’s Quote was from: 12 Years a Slave
[“I don’t want to survive. I want to live.”]
1925 - Leverett House is opened to unanimous applause, except for jealous denizens of the other houses. Attendees of the grand opening of Leverett report seeing John Harvard’s ghost, apparently applauding and crying tears of joy at this momentous occasion in his namesake college’s history.

2013-14 - Old Lev undergoes construction. New rooms and common spaces look to improve the House even more. No word on whether they went ahead with my suggestion for a Particle Accelerator in the basement for Chief to play with, though.

Come Thursday morning, hundreds of bright-eyed freshmen will be waiting expectantly in their rooms. On this fateful day, the next 3 years of their lives will be thrust upon them in the form of a letter, carried by swarms of jolly upperclassmen. Some freshmen will be delighted; others will be crushed (sorry, future Quadlings). But whatever happens, each freshman will become a part of a terrific, welcoming community that will foster friendship, learning, and growth...

...sorry guys, we were required to include that last sentence about every house being great. While they all have their perks, we here in Lev know that LEVERETT HOUSE is the place to be. Now we just have to let the freshman know it.

Come to the D Hall on Thursday morning between 6:45am and 7:45am to join Lev Army as we prepare to storm the yard!
We will be loud and we will deliver happiness to dozens of lucky freshmen.

Stick around Annenberg afterwards to raise the roof and raise even more Lev Spirit while freshman attempt to eat lunch! The Beloved Bunny petting Zoo will be out in front of Annenberg! These bunnies aren’t going to pet themselves!

And in the evening, come to Community Dinner and the Rising Rabbit Bash!
Don’t miss Chiefs first chance to meet freshmen whose names he has almost certainly memorized already!

Let’s let the freshmen know that WE ARE the house to get!