



Celebrating the 20th anniversary of the Epsilon Gamma chapter at Central Michigan University



FOREVER WITH QUALITY

One hundred and twenty-five brothers and guests gathered at the Comfort Inn in Mt. Pleasant, Michigan, on November 12 to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Epsilon Gamma chapter at Central Michigan University. The day began with a special luncheon at the newly-renovated chapter house, catered by Beta Sweetheart Barb Koehn, and continued with afternoon meetings of the advisory team and Housing Corporation.



General Fraternity President P. Thomas Purinton, Kansas State '63; Founder Randy S. Helman, Central Michigan '84; Administrative Secretary Stephen B. Becker, Florida '69; former General Fraternity Vice President Ronald P. Helman, Miami '55 and Editor Thomas C. Olver, Central Michigan '98

At the black-tie gala dinner, organized by Founder Thomas J. Bussineau '86, brothers were joined by five of the six original founders. Chapter Counselor Gregory M. Compton '86, along with then-Colony President Matthew Bush '08, provided an inspirational update on the Colony's activities.

The program included a heart-warming three-part video produced by Scott E. Nadeau '89, which explored the Chapter's rich

heritage, acknowledged the challenges which led to its closure in early 2002 and promoted the excitement of the ongoing recolonization. The Epsilon Gamma Housing Corporation (EGHC) conferred the General Fraternity's Distinguished Service award on Nadeau for his many years of unselfish devotion to the Epsilon Gamma chapter, alumni association and Housing Corporation. "Without question, Nadeau has embodied the principles and obligations of our Fraternity and given deeply of his time and talents to improve the Epsilon Gamma chapter," said Housing Corporation President Thomas C. Olver '98. Nadeau is the 14th recipient of the Distinguished Service award, which was first presented in 1998.

Phillip J. Adler '98, who championed the Housing Corporation in 1999 and 2000, was recognized for his service as Continuous Improvement Plan chairman for the past five years. "Under his leadership, our home at 814 S. Main Street has been transformed into the finest fraternity house at Central Michigan," said Olver. In honor of Adler's dedication and exemplary service, Olver commissioned a stained glass coat-of-arms that has been

installed above the mantle in the Chapter's Fireside Room (bottom right.)

The EGHC also awarded \$1,000 in academic scholarships to three undergraduate members of the Epsilon Gamma colony. Norman S. Klein '07 and Benjamin R. Reedy '07 received \$250 scholarships, and Christopher L. May '06 received a \$500 scholarship. While these were the first such awards offered by the Corporation, more than a dozen annual scholarship funds have been established by Chapter alumni through a special ongoing Capital Fundraising Initiative. Up to \$3,000 — divided into \$250 and \$500 scholarships — is slated for distribution to undergraduate members in 2006.

Interim Capital Fundraising Initiative Chairman Ken Breen '89 provided an update on the Chapter's ongoing capital campaign to raise funds for scholarships, leadership development sponsorships, alumni activities, communications and house improvements, which began in the summer of 2004. "Collectively, we can achieve our goal of \$150,000 and help ensure Epsilon Gamma has a firm financial foundation," said Breen. By the end of the day, Campaign commitments had climbed from \$86,450 to more than \$103,000.

A highlight of the evening came during the Keynote address as General Fraternity President Tom Purinton shared his vision for the future of the Fraternity. "Beta Theta Pi has always been about making good men better . . . one of the best ways to accomplish this is to provide our men with the tools and skills to be better leaders in their chapters, in their professions, in their families and in their communities." He continued, "The ultimate goal is to have all chapters embrace our principles and values, and work toward making their actions consistent with who we say we are."

Epsilon Gamma's motto, "Forever with Quality," continues to play out through the leadership of its undergraduates, the commitment of its volunteers and the ongoing generosity of its alumni and friends. ❧

