



For The Staunchest E-News - Sunday August 01, 2004

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RECOLONIZATION UPDATE

Dear brothers,

This fall marks one of the most important semesters in Epsilon Gamma's history. In the fall of 1982, Randy Helman had an idea that evolved into the Epsilon Gamma Chapter of Beta Theta Pi. Most of us owe the better part of our college experience to what he and others started.

The students recruited in the fall have a similar road ahead of them, however, unlike our six founding fathers in 1985, today's group has an unending amount of resources available to them. This certainly does not mean their task will be easier; it only serves to challenge us, as alumni, to guide them through those resources, giving them a legitimate shot toward their own evolution. The new era of Beta at CMU is much different from what many of us had experienced. For those of you who haven't read the Strategic Planning Initiative (SPI) posted on the web site, I found a particular passage rather fitting. In the introduction by Ken Breen -'90, he wrote about his visit back to the Beta house in the fall of 2000:

"We can observe trends, but the only thing we can know for sure about the future, is that it will be different than today. The undergraduate fraternity experience of the future will also be different than it is today — just as the experience today is different than it was 15 years ago — and that doesn't mean that the experience today is any better or any worse — just that it is different. The undergraduate fraternity that we experienced at a 'point in time' is the only experience we know. As an alumni brother, I can no longer expect a pledge brother this semester to appreciate how things were when I pledged Beta, than I could have been expected as a pledge to appreciate how things were in 1970."

It is in this vein that the EG Advising Team takes on its task of guiding our new colony. Strong with experiences of the past, we look only to the future of our chapter at CMU and the Fraternity world in general.

Please help us do all we can for the next evolution of Epsilon Gamma.

Saturday, October 9th (CMU Homecoming), at **9am in the Lake St. Clare room of the Bovee University Center**, David Rae will speak on behalf of the recruitment effort-taking place from October 10 to October 28. He will walk us through the re-colonization schedule, and answer questions and concerns from alumni brothers. We hope to spend an action packed hour going over the details and discussing the issues. After the meeting, we can then enjoy CMU's homecoming and football game. Plans are in the works for festivities. For those of you that plan on coming in on Friday night, we plan on holding a social event at a local brother's home. Details will be posted soon. Make your hotel reservations

now!

Besides contacting a member of the EGHC or EGAT, or attending meetings, you can also go to www.epsilongamma.org for information on how to get involved, as well as find answers to questions you may have about the alumni groups that function for the sole purpose of preserving the Beta experience at CMU.

I look forward to seeing you on October 9th,

Yours in ____kai____,

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Editor's Note: Homecoming information will be posted on our "Upcoming Events" page soon. http://www.epsilongamma.org/upcoming_events.htm

To visit CMU's official homecoming page, go to: <http://www.alumni.cmich.edu/homecoming.asp>.

ADVISING TEAM & HOUSING CORPORATION MEETING WRAP-UP

The Epsilon Gamma Advising Team and the Epsilon Gamma Housing Corporation met in Mt. Pleasant both separately and together on July 10th.

You can read the minutes from the Advising Team meeting [here](http://www.epsilongamma.org/advisors.htm#july_meeting). (http://www.epsilongamma.org/advisors.htm#july_meeting)
You can read the minutes from the Housing Corporation and view pictures from the Work Weekend [here](http://www.epsilongamma.org/EGHC.html#july_2004). (http://www.epsilongamma.org/EGHC.html#july_2004)

RITUAL ADVISOR NEEDED

Dear Brothers,

The Epsilon Gamma Advising Team is in need of a Ritual Advisor for the new colony in the fall. This position would focus on advising the new colony's ritual chair. Duties would include, but not be limited to, attending quarterly EGAT meetings, as well as appointing a team of advisors to aid in the Ritual Advisor's tasks, such as giving a presentation at least once a month to the undergraduate chapter.

As we all know, the Beta Theta Pi Ritual is what bonds each and every one of us together, and is the foundation that holds together a successful chapter.

Please contact either Greg Compton or myself if you are interested in being involved in anyway as a Ritual Advisor.

Yours in Kai

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REVIVING THE MONTHLY ALUMNI GET-TOGETHERS

Brothers, After meeting with some fellow brothers this past weekend (July 10th), it reminded us how great it was to get together and shoot the preverbal sh*t. So the three of us (Trevor, Dave, and Steve) started talking and we want to revive the monthly Alumni get together.

Since many of us are spread throughout the Detroit area, we have picked two locations to meet. We will meet once a month, and alternate from the FIRST WEDNESDAY of Every month at [DICK ODOW'S IRISH PUB](#) in Birmingham, and the SECOND WEDNESDAY of every month at [THE POST in Novi](#). Choose a location nearest you and show up or come to both so that you can see brothers you might not normally see! We will have the first gathering the first Wednesday in SEPTEMBER (At [Dick Odow's](#)) so mark you calendars! One has also been included so you don't have any excuses. (*Click here to download the calendar. url: <http://www.epsilongamma.org/publications/Beta%20Social%20Gathering%20Calendar.pdf>)*

If you have any suggestions for a different meeting place, please let us know. We look forward to seeing you there and reviving the strong alumni core we know we are capable of.

Yours in _kai_,

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CMU VS. MSU FOOTBALL GAME SEPTEMBER 11, 2004 - SPARTAN STADIUM, EAST LANSING, MICHIGAN

The Alumni Activities committee of the Epsilon Gamma Housing Corporation is organizing a group trip to Michigan State University to see the brand new CMU football team under coach Brian Kelly take on the Spartans.

The tickets are \$42 apiece and the game time is 1:00 p.m.

If you are interested in attending, contact Andrew McDonald
mcdonald237@hotmail.com
or (734) 502-0788.

SCOTT SAWYER RECEIVES MARTINEAU AWARD

The Epsilon Gamma Housing Corporation is proud to announce that the recipient of the 2004 Steven W. Martineau award for outstanding alumni contribution has been awarded to Scott D. Sawyer '99. Scott is the coordinator of the annual golf

outing and has served in that position since 2002. Thanks to his efforts, the event has raised some \$4,000. The proceeds will be used to support recolonization efforts at Central Michigan University and to support alumni functions.

To read the entire story, click [here](http://www.epsilongamma.org/news.htm#martineau_award). (http://www.epsilongamma.org/news.htm#martineau_award)

THE BETA NETWORK

- **Dave Steiner** Writes: "Hello everyone, thought I'd write the official note for all to see that Liz and I are expecting our first child. Her official due date is January 5th, so we'll see if we end up getting another New Years Birthday in the family! Hope everyone is doing well, Dave Steiner EG 207 "
- **Erik Weatherford** Writes: "No new babies or business achievements to announce but..... I am now engaged! Many of you who know me, know her. Amy Smalley, Delta Zeta Alum - CMU '01, said "Yes" yesterday! (*July 20*) Took her a little bit to say anything through the shock, but I got a "Yes" needless to say. Somebody raise a glass for me! Take care! Erik Weatherford EG235 (616) 516-1014 "

Betas in the Military Update:

- *July 11, 2004* - **Matthew J. Yandura** Writes:

Dear Brother Scott, and fellow brothers of Epsilon Gamma,

Effective immediately I am being moved back to camp victory to work as Gen. Casey's speech writer full-time (he is the new 4-star Commanding General for Multi-National Forces-Iraq). Hurrah! I will be back at Camp Victory NLT 1600 today.

Use the following email address in the meantime:

matthew.yandura@us.army.mil until I get my new account.

Being here for the handover of sovereignty and Sadaam's trial has been pretty amazing. The Iraqi people are glad to be in charge of their political future. The handover was veiled in secrecy for several key reasons: (1) physical security of Ambassador Bremer and Prime Minister Alawi (2) to deny terrorists the opportunity to exploit this important event for their own purposes (3) to send a message that Iraq will do what is in its best interest (4) to be able to conduct the ceremony in a manner the Iraqi's saw fit. And if you were wondering...even we were a little surprised at the abruptness of it all—we only found out 30 minutes before the rest of the world.

As far as the current situation goes, things are still very dangerous—but for the most part we have the support of the Iraqi's. Never mind the naysayers on TV. Mass media will pull any loony out of the crowd with a dissenting opinion just to create tension. The truth is, most Iraqis are eager and happy for the help from the Americans and everyone else. At the same time, no Nation wants to be occupied by another. Most Iraqi' accept the fact that it important for multi-national forces to stay until their fledgling Democracy is more secure. Another great question not being asked is "Why aren't other Arab nations doing more to help Iraq?"

So what is the "bad-guy" situation like here (some of you may be asking)? Believe me, there are less bad-guys in Iraq now than there were before—and we kill or capture scores more every day. Some are foreign

fighters—but most are Iraqi hardliners from the old regime. Not a lot of room for bargaining with these wackos which is why we destroy or detain them when we find them. Improved explosive devices and car bombs kill more of our guys than anything else—this is the enemy modus operandi. Lately they have been videotaping their exploits so they can get it played on Al-Jazeera. I wonder why the networks air this kind of coverage. It plays right into the hands of the terrorists.

The Iraqi people are not like the Arabs I met in Egypt, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, or the United Arab Emirates. These people are religiously diverse; they willingly accommodate different views of faith and thought; they have an ardent love for their children; and are eager to join the rest of the globalizing world. I have made many Iraqi friends—some are soldiers, some are police, some diplomats, and some children who always seem to be hanging around our military whenever we go out on patrol.

The Iraqi's are survivors. And I have seen their kindness and generosity first hand. You guys would find them to be humble, eager to learn, and filled with hope for a better tomorrow.

Matthew J. Yandura
CPT, AG
Special Assistant/Speech Writer
Office of the Deputy C-3/Military Spokesman MNF-I

To send in your Beta Network News go to: <http://www.epsilongamma.org/betabase.html> or send your information to webmaster@epsilongamma.org.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Thirty members of the Epsilon Gamma rolls will celebrate a birthday this month. The average age of these men is **30.2**. The oldest brother with a birthday this month is **George Campbell, #21** at **43** and the youngest is **Mitch Uyeda, #314**, at **21**.

8/1	Seth Martin, #284	24
8/5	Mitch Uyeda, #314	21
8/6	Brendan Lambrix, #80	36
	Brian O'Donnell, #132	34
8/8	Scott Slocum, #165	31
8/10	Jeff Noordhof, #178	33
	Matt Stanton, #208	29
8/11	Chris Bica, #143	32
	Andrew McDonald, #237	27
8/12	Jeff Heck, #151	33
	Jason Siewert, #299	23
8/14	Vince Schwager, #9	41
	Steve Henderson, #174	30
8/15	George Campbell, #21	43
8/17	Tyler Bollaert, #44	37
8/18	Steve Blake, #287	24
8/19	Vince Harris, #255	25
8/20	Dave Droski, #185	29
8/21	John Phillips, #112	36
8/22	Jason Nurmi, #266	26
8/23	Jesse Roberson, #232	28
	Lance DeGroot, #305	27
8/24	Mark DuRocher, #108	35

8/25	Patrick Kearns, #27	38
	Ken Breen, #43	38
8/27	Mike Zaetta, #210	30
8/29	Rick Leinaar, #193	29
	Ryan Byrnes, #307	23
8/30	Ryan Gleason, #293	23
	Nick Oliveri, #296	22

Please help these brothers celebrate by [sending an email](#), making a phone call, sending a card, paying a visit, taking them out, etc. Best wishes for a healthy, happy and safe birthday, brothers!

Yours in _____*kai*_____,

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COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE

I've made a few changes and updates to www.epsilongamma.org this past month in addition to adding all of the information mentioned above.

- Added a recolonization countdown to the home page.
- Changed "About Epsilon Gamma" to "Chapter History" to make room for a colony information page. http://www.epsilongamma.org/eg_history.html
- Added new page: "Colony Information" so that when the colony is established this page will contain information about the Colony at Central Michigan and its members. http://www.epsilongamma.org/chapter_info.htm
- Updated the EG officers page. <http://www.epsilongamma.org/officers.htm>
- Added an EG Discussion forum to the site. This will be used by the colony & alumni to discuss issues. An internal registration is required. Anyone will be able to start discussions, add posts or take polls. <http://www.activeboard.com/forum.spark?forumID=31138>
- Removed the graph from the EGHC bylaws page since it is in the process of being updated. http://www.epsilongamma.org/MembersOnly/EGHC_bylaws.html
- Added the feedback page to allow for anonymous feedback and collection of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's) <http://www.epsilongamma.org/feedback.htm>
- Added a website information page (also called a "site map") to explain the purpose, goals and organization of our website. http://www.epsilongamma.org/site_info.htm
- Added events to the Event Calendar <http://www.calsnet.net/eqbetas> (Anyone can do this!)
- Updated the links that appear at the bottom of each page so that they are consistent throughout the site.

Also, be aware that a printed edition of "For The Staunchest" will be mailed out within a month. If your address is not current in our database you will not get the newsletter and you will be dropped from the mailing list.

Update your info at: <http://www.epsilongamma.org/betabase.html>

Yours in ____kai____,

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FAQ's

Here I thought we'd be introducing a great new feature in our monthly newsletter. But as it turns out, no one sent in a question or comment...not one! I'll take the silence as an indication that all of you are happy with how things are being run right now.

The offer still stands. If you want to put in your two cents, go to <http://www.epsilongamma.org/feedback.htm>.

If you leave the name and email fields blank, your comment or question will be sent anonymously. We'll address any questions or comments next month.

See you next month! -*Scott*

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To update your contact information: www.epsilongamma.org/betabase.html
To get a password for the restricted areas of EpsilonGamma.org: www.epsilongamma.org/Password.html
For all other business, e-mail: webmaster@epsilongamma.org