



For The Staunchest E-News - Thursday, February 03, 2005

SIX MEN INITIATED INTO EPSILON GAMMA IN OXFORD

By Greg Compton, Chapter Counselor

On the eighth day of the eighth month of 1839 eight young men gathered to begin a great fraternity. On the twenty-second day of the first month of 2005 six earnest young men were initiated on the rolls of the Epsilon Gamma chapter of Beta Theta Pi. A snowy cold day was the backdrop for the ceremony and many alumni from Central Michigan were in attendance. It was a great new beginning for Epsilon Gamma.

The day began with a meeting for the Advisory team, followed by preparation for the ceremony. The ritual was performed by the Alpha chapter of Miami University. A couple of brothers assisted with brother Tom Olver leading all of the song portions, and brother Greg Compton reading the part of Alumnus. (It said that the part should be read by preferably, someone elderly.) He fit the part.

It was a great feeling for all brothers in attendance to see the first member to sign his name on the roll book. It is also fitting that six new brothers are beginning Epsilon Gamma again. Six brothers were the original founding fathers at Central, so we begin again with this number. The following young men were added to the rolls of the Epsilon Gamma Chapter:

	Kris C.	
325	Wellman	'07
	Matthew	
326	Bush	'08
	William N.	
327	Bonner	'08
	Christopher L.	
328	May	'06
	Norman S.	
329	Klein	'07
	Christopher J.	
330	Olson	'06

Immediately following the initiation ceremony, the colony was presented with a Beta Flag and American flag that were sent by Brother Matt Mularoni who is currently serving in Iraq. It was a very touching moment. (*You can see a picture of the flag [here](#)*) Then, the colony was presented with brand new initiation items donated by alums.

Following the ceremony we were blessed with a tour of the Administrative Office, which is clad with many historical features. We learned a lot. Following the tour of the building, we ventured over to Old Main, sat where the first meeting was said to have taken place and proceeded out to the Beta Campanile. If your Beta spirit has ever been low, then a recommended trip is to Oxford. It will pump you up in a few short moments.

After the cold snowy walking tour we all gathered for lunch. Dining with the new initiates was a treat. Alumni young and old had a filling lunch and great conversation about the new beginnings of Beta Theta Pi at Central Michigan University. It was a solid beginning of joining new and old.

The final portion for the new initiates was Beta 101, which is a class that is something that helps them understand what happened during the ritual, and the importance of wearing the

badge and bearing the name of Beta Theta Pi.

Respectfully submitted by Gregory M. Compton EG 6 (One of the old guys.)

(You can see pictures taken that day at: http://www.epsilongamma.org/news.htm#initiation_jan_2005)

MESSAGE FROM THE COLONY VICE PRESIDENT

Dear Alum,

My name is Matt Bush. Many of you have heard from me or met me already. If you are one of the select few who haven't, you're in for a treat. Well, I figure that not only do you want, but also deserve somewhat of a report or a general idea of what is going on in the colony. So, I thought it best that I make sure I keep you happy, and in the loop.

The semester started off a little harsh, we lost a big chunk of guys. We went from about 15 to nine, but the heart and soul of the group still remains intact. Six of the nine had the privilege to be initiated by the Alpha chapter on the 22nd in Oxford, and the other three are itching to have the chance. I'd really like to thank all the alums who did make it down to see us, and those who helped with our rituals leading up to initiation. You really helped make the experience that much better, and thank you again.

Since we've left Oxford, we've become closer, and have gotten right down to work. Recruitment was these last couple weeks, and I think in the end we'll bring in another four to six guys to help out the fraternity. Tonight (*Wednesday*) we have our recruitment through scholarship reception to sign some kids up for interviews.

As for the house, eight of the nine are going to be in, plus anyone we can initiate. I'm pretty confident we'll be going into the house with 10 quality men. Also, I can promise that we will probably double our size in a year with quality men. I can easily see 25 men being a part of this fraternity by the fall of 2006.

On behalf of the other eight men in the fraternity, I'd just like to thank every single one of you for your continued and undying support for us. I know we are making you extremely happy for bringing our beloved house back to campus. And, I promise, as long as I am here, Beta will be the premier fraternity on campus.

Thank you again & next month you'll have a letter from all of the actives. Have a great month.

Sincerely,
Matthew J. Bush
Vice President
EG 326

ADVISORS MEETING WRAP-UP

On January 22nd, just before initiation, the Advising Team held a meeting on the second floor of the administrative office in Oxford, Ohio. You can download the meeting minutes by going here: <http://www.epsilongamma.org/advisors.htm>

HOUSING CORPORATION MEETING WRAP-UP

This past Saturday, the Housing Corporation met in Ann Arbor for a marathon of a meeting. It began at 9:30 in the morning and didn't end until after 2:00 p.m. In brief, James Eschelbach has resigned as Treasurer. Steve Grenus has been voted in as the new Treasurer. New additions to the board include John Coe and Chris Olson, the colony president. The main topics discussed were finances, the Golf Outing, the 20th Anniversary Banquet, revision of the corporation's by-laws, the Continuous Improvement Plan (CIP), the

Capital Fundraising Initiative (CFI), house safety improvements, and plans for improvements and renovations this summer. The minutes are not completed yet, but when they are you will be able to download them at: <http://www.epsilongamma.org/EGHC.html>.

FORGIVENESS IS UNDERSTANDING THAT THE PAST CANNOT BE CHANGED TO CREATE A DIFFERENT FUTURE.

Brothers,

Beta Theta Pi at Central Michigan University is in a unique situation. We have six young men who have accepted the challenge to put us back on track to be the "Men of Principle" on the CMU campus. What an exciting time in their lives, what a weight on their shoulders. They need our help, all of our help.

Many of us, myself included, have had some concerns with the past direction of the fraternity and how we came to be in the situation that has led us to where we are today. There have been grumbings both small and loud. Many people who once were pillars of our great fraternity have crumbled away because of it. It saddens me that we have allowed ourselves to divide.

What I would like all of you to do is to visit that special place we would all go to with Wooglin to air our differences. I ask that each and every one of us forgive the fraternity, the brotherhood or the individual brother(s) for whatever wrongs we feel were committed. What has happened has happened and we must grow stronger from it. This is no longer about us, but about the 6 young men who have agreed to pick up a torch that we have dropped. We must show them what true brotherhood is. We must come back into the fold for their sake as well as our own.

Let us not forget the past; this is not what I am asking of you. But let us forgive; let us give up that need for retribution that we feel we deserve. Lift up your hearts and spirits to embrace our one chance to unite us all once again in the brotherhood that we all so strongly believe in. Let us show these six young men what it truly means to be a BETA.

Yours in -kai-

John A. Coe
EG 77

ADVISOR TRAINING DATES

Hello everyone,

It is my goal as the Co-Counselor to get all of the Advisors (or people interested in advising) trained before the fall semester. Below are a few opportunities for that. If anyone is interested in the Chicago Training Session, please let me know and I can hook you up with a room at my dad's hotel.

By the way, Beta Theta Pi will pay up to \$200 in travel (\$0.24/mile) and accommodations for each advisor that is attending if you haven't attended one in the past 2 years. These training sessions are a great way to learn about the *Men of Principle* Initiative as well as understand the General Fraternity's overall direction. Additionally, it gives you a chance to meet Betas from other chapters in similar positions.

There are two relatively close advisor training sessions (ATC) that are occurring within the next 3 weeks.

The first session is on Feb 12th from 8:30 to 4:30 at the Oxford offices. Contact Jayna Winkler at 800-800-Beta or jayna@wooglin.com.

The 2nd session is in the Chicago area on Feb. 19th. Contact Dave Oster at

dostermindy@hotmail.com or at 630-660-9923 for more details.

We will also try to pull a session together in the Detroit area in the 2nd Qtr. It turns out, the previous tentative date of February 25th is NOT going to work, so I'm currently looking into other dates. Also, I'm not sure about this, but normally there is an advisor track during convention. If you want more info on the convention, call AJ Calkins (District Chief) or check out the [Beta Theta Pi](#) web site. It is Aug. 4-8 at the Mobil Five star resort - The Fairmont Princess or Princess Fairmont in Scottsdale AZ.

Let's make an effort to get all advisors to these vital sessions.

Yours in _kai_,

-Dave Steiner & AJ Calkins
djsteiner2@yahoo.com AJ.Calkins@Dana.com

EG EARLY WARNING SYSTEM

Get your calendar out and write down these dates:

- Saturday, June 25, 2005 - 16th Annual Golf Outing - Location & time T.B.A.
- Saturday, July 16, 2005 - 3rd Annual Epsilon Gamma Work Weekend in Mt. Pleasant
- Friday, November 11 & Saturday, November 12, 2005 - 20th Anniversary Banquet - Comfort Inn, Mt. Pleasant, Michigan

MONTHLY ALUMNI GET-TOGETHER --LOCATION CHANGE!

We're moving locations! Join your fellow brothers for spirits and fun chat **Wednesday, March 2nd** at [Mr. B's Pub](#) in Royal Oak. (Click the link for a map)

Remember, this is just for brothers to keep in touch and is completely social (**NO BUSINESS**)! If you plan on attending, shoot a quick message to Steve Henderson (shenderson@dongyangamerica.com) & try to arrive between 6:00 and 6:30.

On April 6th, we'll be at [THE POST in Novi](#).

If you have any questions about the Wednesday gatherings in general, please contact one of the brothers below.

Yours in _kai_,

Trevor Wisniewski
trevor.w@raymondjames.com
248-613-0700

Steve Henderson
shenderson@dongyangamerica.com
586-791-3197

Dave Steiner
djsteiner2@yahoo.com
586-795-9496

ALUMNI GET-TOGETHER -- WESTSIDE -- a follow-up

Dear Brothers,

Just want to give a quick thanks to all the brothers who showed up for the West Michigan Beta Reunion this evening (January 14) at Buffalo Wild Wings in Grand Rapids! It was quite the success! There was a lot of catching up and stories shared. It was a fantastic time! We even discussed the future of the Epsilon Gamma chapter and how we could influence it's progress back as one of the premier fraternities on CMU's campus!

No. Wait a minute. Something sounds wrong with this story. Oh, I know what it is - I made it up!! You see, not one person from our chapter showed up tonight. Not one of the many Beta's whom I know live in the West Michigan area could take an hour or so from their time to meet with their brothers to relive some of the past. Not one. I know I stated in the invitation that I didn't mind drinking alone, but I never thought it would be a serious statement. After an hour and a half of waiting, I gave up.

I give props to the Detroit area brothers and their continued success with the Epsilon Gamma Reunions they have on a regular basis. I guess if I'm going to get the chance to hang out with some of my bros, I'm going to have to drive 2 hours to do so.

Way to show some Beta spirit! Hope to see you all again next time!

Marc Walkowski
marcwalkowski@hotmail.com
EG 230

THE BETA NETWORK

- **Bryan Hix** writes: "My wife, Susan, gave birth to our son Brycen Dale Hix. He was 8.2 pounds and 21 inches long. Mother and baby are doing great, but for some reason Bryce doesn't want to sleep through the night. :) Hopefully some day he will wear the letters."

Congratulations can be sent to:

Bryan and Susan Hix
307 Gregory M. Sears Dr.
Gilberts, IL 60136
(847) 697-4970
bryandhix@sbcglobal.net

- **Dave and Liz Steiner** would like to announce the birth of their first daughter! Katherine Michael Steiner was born at 10:48am on Monday, January 3rd, 2005. 8lbs, 12 ounces, 20 Inches long. Dave Writes: "Baby and Mom are doing great - should be home Wednesday night or Thursday Morning."

Congratulations can be sent to:

David and Liz Steiner
21911 Sunnyside
St. Clair Shores, MI 48080
(586) 778-2853
djsteiner2@yahoo.com

Pictures of both new additions can be found at: <http://www.epsilongamma.org/betanetwork.html>

Betas in the Military

- **Josh Weakland** *January 18, 2005* - (Message from Brother Jeff Weakland) My brother Josh Weakland, EG276, is currently in Kuwait and will soon be heading to Iraq. His email address is joshua.weakland@us.army.mil.

Please pray for his safety.
yours in __kai__,
Jeff Weakland
EG280

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!

Nineteen members of the Epsilon Gamma rolls will celebrate a birthday this month. The average age of these men is **30.9**. The oldest brother with a birthday this month is **Grant Kersten, #32** at **43** and the youngest is **Chris May, #328**, at **19**.

2/3	Mike Severy, #166	34
2/4	Ted Bott, #301	25
2/7	Kris Wellman, #325	20
2/9	David Robertson, #144	35
2/9	Chris May, #328	19
2/11	David Hasenleder, #103	35
2/13	Scott Sawyer, #205	30
2/13	Brian Brigham, #273	26
2/14	Todd Finnin, #180	33
2/15	Scott Stoughton, #15	40
2/16	Jordan Buschmohle, #272	26
	Joe Evenden, #317	24
2/17	Keith Nagel, #116	35
2/19	Jeff Wandzel, #52	39
2/19	Ryan MacDermaid, #244	28
2/20	Ben Johnson, #258	27
2/23	Grant Kersten, #32	43
2/23	Greg Neper, #18	41
2/27	Kenton Barber, #261	28

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____,

Thomas C. Olver
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COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE/...ONE LAST THING

We'll be sending out our printed newsletter "*For the Staunchest*" in March.

- If you have moved in the past 6 months and have yet to update your information, go to: <http://www.epsilongamma.org/betabase.html> and update your information.
- If anything new or interesting has happened in your life lately, go to:

<http://www.epsilongamma.org/betabase.html> to share your information or send it to me at: scott.nadeau@epsilongamma.org

- Finally, if you didn't know, we do accept advertising for the newsletter. It's \$100 for a full page, \$50 or a half page, \$25 quarter page, \$10 business card size. Email me at scott.nadeau@epsilongamma.org if you are interested.
- The deadline for submissions to the Newsletter is Saturday, February 19th.

If you want to ask a question about this newsletter or Epsilon Gamma, 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.

The Epsilon Gamma of Beta Theta Pi Fraternity

P.O. Box 151 • Mt. Pleasant, Michigan • 48804

www.epsilongamma.org

To update your contact information: <http://www.epsilongamma.org/betabase.html>

To get a password for the restricted areas of our website: <http://www.epsilongamma.org/password.html>

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