

For The Staunchest • E-Newsletter • Monday, October 02, 2006

## Welcome to the New Pledge Class!

The following men are pledging this semester:

Chad William Crary	Freshman	<a href="mailto:crary1cw@cmich.edu">crary1cw@cmich.edu</a>
Chris J. Mueller	Sophomore	<a href="mailto:muell1cj@cmich.edu">muell1cj@cmich.edu</a>
Shane P. Farrell	Freshman	<a href="mailto:farre1sp@cmich.edu">farre1sp@cmich.edu</a>
Joshua Michael Davis	Freshman	<a href="mailto:davis11j@cmich.edu">davis11j@cmich.edu</a>
Drew Daniel Mason	Freshman	<a href="mailto:mason1dd@cmich.edu">mason1dd@cmich.edu</a>
Zachary Richard A. Zeoli	Freshman	<a href="mailto:zeoli1zr@cmich.edu">zeoli1zr@cmich.edu</a>
David Joseph-Lee Jablonski	Freshman	<a href="mailto:jablo1dj@cmich.edu">jablo1dj@cmich.edu</a>
Robert M. Hunter	Freshman	<a href="mailto:hunte1rm@cmich.edu">hunte1rm@cmich.edu</a>

Feel free to send them a note of congratulations on taking a step to becoming a vital part of Beta Theta Pi at CMU!

Norm Klein (EG 329) and Adam Porter-Price, *Connecticut* '06, will be teaching the pledge class this semester. The first class/meeting was held last night. Additionally, several other pledge class activities are already planned. A sorority serenade evening has been confirmed with the ladies of Alpha Chi Omega, Alpha Sigma Tau, Alpha Gamma Delta, Delta Zeta, Sigma Kappa and Sigma Sigma Sigma for Saturday, October 7th.

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## Homecoming 2006

October 14th is Homecoming at CMU. Bring the family and renew those Beta ties!

The schedule is as follows:

- 9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Continental Breakfast (by Barbara Koehn) & Open House — 814 S. Main Street
- 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Homecoming Parade — Main Street - Michigan Speaker of the House Craig DeRoche (Brother of Paul DeRoche `91) is the Grand Marshal.
- 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Tailgate — Rose Ponds\*
- 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Football game (vs. Ball State) — Kelly/Shorts Stadium. To order game tickets please call the Athletic Ticket Office at 1-888-FIREUP2 or visit them on the web at <http://www.cmuchippewas.com/>.

Remember, as of last year, the property at 814 S. Main is alcohol and substance free. Please do not bring either to the house.

*\*Alumni Brothers to are encouraged to gather at the University's "Alumni Village" near the Rose Ponds for Tailgating. There is no cost for the alumni village and free food is provided by the CMU alumni relations office. You can see the official CMU Homecoming event calendar at <http://www.alumni.cmich.edu/homecoming.asp>.*

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## For the Staunchest Has Been Mailed

*By Scott Nadeau `89, EGHC communications director*

You should have received your newsletter by now. If you are an alum and didn't get one, it's because your mailing address is incorrect in our database.

You can fix that by filling out the form here:

[http://www.epsilongamma.org/alumni\\_files/betabase.htm](http://www.epsilongamma.org/alumni_files/betabase.htm)

If you missed it, you can download and print the latest newsletter here:

[http://www.epsilongamma.org/news\\_files/eg\\_publications.html](http://www.epsilongamma.org/news_files/eg_publications.html)

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## **Capital Fundraising Initiative**

*By Tom Olver '98, EGHC president*

### **Preserving the Past . . . Enhancing the Future**

Many remarkable things are happening in Mt. Pleasant these days. Our newly renovated chapter house is once again home to our undergraduate Beta brothers. Several alumni brothers are serving diligently as members of an advising team that works closely with the undergraduates toward the goal of reinstating our Charter and returning to “good standing” with the General Fraternity and Central Michigan University.

In addition to working hard to retain and make significant improvements to the chapter house, the directors of the Housing Corporation have continued to host annual events such as the golf outing, pig roast and homecoming while maintaining their dedication to facilitating strong chapter communications.

In concert with these endeavors, it has been my pleasure to help Epsilon Gamma by working alongside Ken Breen, Tom Bussineau and Trevor Wisniewski in coordinating our inaugural *Capital Fundraising Initiative* (CFI.)

#### ***The Goal***

Our goal is to raise a minimum of \$150,000. Half of the amount raised (\$75,000) will be used to help fund and complete renovations to the Chapter house. The entire first floor was renovated in the summer of 2005, and several more projects are included in the *Continuous Improvement Plan* we established in 2001, including permanent furnishings in all of the bedrooms.

The remaining \$75,000 will be used to fund more than a dozen named scholarships for academic achievement and more than a dozen sponsorships each year for outstanding leadership development programming such as *The John & Nellie Wooden Institute for Men of Principle*, *The Peter F. Greiner Leadership College*, *The Donald W. English Beta Wilderness Challenge* and the *Undergraduate Interfraternity Institute*.

#### ***Our Progress***

Last summer, we wanted to “feel the water” and decided to call on a few brothers to gauge the response to the CFI. Through only a handful of personal phone calls, we found 16 brothers who eagerly committed to the CFI, pledging a combined **\$62,500** to Epsilon Gamma over the next five years! When we called on these brothers, a common phrase we heard was, “What can I do to help?” Each brother was excited to be an active contributor toward the future success of our Chapter.

Over the past year, another 25 brothers and Friends of Beta have stepped forward. To date, we have received pledges of **\$99,700** and collected more than \$30,000 of that total. Leading up to the fall semester, more than \$3,500 has been awarded in scholarships and sponsorships to deserving undergraduates.

We believe you will agree that the plan we have in place is deserving of your strong consideration and support. We are offering you the opportunity to have events, academic scholarships, leadership sponsorships and even rooms in the Chapter house named in your honor for pledging a certain gift. Two *Thomas J. Bussineau Institute for Men of Principle* sponsorships and *The Paul M. DeRoche Library* are among the gifts already pledged toward this historic effort.

#### ***How You Can Help***

We need your support! If you would like to join the ranks of those who have become active contributors towards the future success of Epsilon Gamma, please review the various opportunities in the [CFI brochure](#). Once you have selected the item you wish to sponsor, complete the [Letter of Intent \(LOI\)](#) specifying the amount you would like to contribute — and when you would like to make your payments. Once you identify the designation of your gift on the back side of the [LOI](#), fax or mail the document to me. It's that simple! I will send reminders when your payments are due, along with payable to and mailing instructions.

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Because this is a gift from the heart, with no strings attached, and because we recognize that our alumni brothers are at different places in life with varying financial demands, we will not make a suggestion as to what an appropriate gift might be. However, our goal will only be reached when brothers, like you, stretch themselves to provide a significant and meaningful contribution.

The enclosed brochure offers a range of sponsorships from \$1,000 (\$200 per year) to \$5,000 (\$1,000 per year.) If you would like to support this Campaign with an amount greater than \$5,000, or to sponsor something that is not listed, please let me know right away and I will work with you to help make your goal a reality.

If you would like to support this Campaign with a one-time gift or annual level of giving that is less than \$1,000 (\$200 per year), please do not underestimate the importance of your gift. Your gift, combined with those of other brothers will be added together and divided equally to support experiential learning, academic scholarships and house renovations. All brothers participating in this effort will be recognized on a plaque in the foyer of the chapter house.

### ***In Closing***

As Epsilon Gamma returns to prominence at Central Michigan University, we are embarking on this inaugural *Capital Fundraising Initiative* to help ensure that our Chapter will be on firm financial footing from this point forward. This Campaign will provide for the future of Epsilon Gamma and its home . . . neither of which would be as strong today without your contributions as an undergraduate, and your gifts of encouragement, time and leadership as an alumnus.

Thank you for all you have done and all that you continue to do for Epsilon Gamma and Beta Theta Pi. Thank you, too, for your thoughtful consideration of this special request.

Yours in \_\_\_\_kai\_\_\_\_,

Tom  
Thomas C. Olver, Central Michigan '98  
President, Epsilon Gamma Housing Corporation  
(513) 255-1245  
[tolver@wooglin.com](mailto:tolver@wooglin.com)

*[To download the CFI Brochure, Letter of Intent, or to read the Frequently Asked Questions about the Capital Fundraising Initiative, go to:*  
[http://www.epsilongamma.org/alumni\\_files/cfi.htm](http://www.epsilongamma.org/alumni_files/cfi.htm)

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## **Klassen Receives Spring 2006 Baad Scholarship**

The Epsilon Gamma Housing Corporation recently awarded a \$200 academic scholarship to Philip M. Klassen '09, an undergraduate member of the Epsilon Gamma colony of Beta Theta Pi. The Baad Scholarship was created and funded by Epsilon Gamma founding father, Matthew Francis Baad '85 in October 2005 to recognize the outstanding new member from each semester's pledge class.

Klassen, a finance and personal financial planning double major from Muskegon, earned a 3.72 during the spring semester. "I chose to join Beta because of my ability to get involved in a leadership position immediately," offers Klassen. "The principles of the men in this Fraternity break the stereotypical image of fraternities, and they aspire to something higher." As Colony treasurer, his goals for the semester include getting the Colony to a zero balance, recruiting 18 men and having the numbers to be more visible on campus. Klassen spent his summer as a branch manager for Student Painters, and was responsible for marketing, finding and estimating jobs and hiring and firing painters. As for his personal goals, Klassen would like to join a large corporation in Detroit or Chicago after graduation, and eventually work his way up to becoming a chief financial officer.

In addition to the scholarship, Klassen will have the privilege of wearing the "Baad badge" — a custom made Fraternity pin bearing Baad's name and roll number — for the duration of his first active semester.

More than a dozen annual scholarship funds have been established by Chapter alumni through a special ongoing *Capital Fundraising Initiative*. Some \$1,500 — divided into \$250 and \$500 scholarships — has already been awarded for fall 2006 and up to \$2,500 more is slated for distribution to undergraduate members in 2006-07.

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The Epsilon Gamma Chapter of Beta Theta Pi is dedicated to building men of principle for a principled life. Our brotherhood aids the individual, builds the fraternity and strengthens Central Michigan University through lifelong devotion to intellectual excellence, high standards of moral conduct and responsible citizenship. Beta Theta Pi, founded in 1839 at Miami University (Ohio), has more than 120,000 members including some 5,800 collegians on 121 campuses in the United States and Canada.

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## Upcoming Events

<p><b>OCTOBER</b></p> <p><b>CMU HOMECOMING</b> Saturday, October 14, 2006 Mt. Pleasant, Michigan vs. Ball State, Game time is 1:00 PM</p> <p><b>Three Fires</b> Saturday, October 28, 2006 <i>Details TBA</i></p>	<p><b>DECEMBER</b></p> <p><b>Exam Week</b> December 11 - 15, 2006</p>
<p><b>NOVEMBER</b></p> <p><b>Initiation Week</b> November 12 - 18, 2006</p> <p><b>Alumni Dinner</b> Friday November 17, 2006</p> <p><b>Initiation</b> Saturday, November 18, 2006</p> <p><i>Details for initiation will be posted soon.</i></p>	

EG's interactive full event calendar is [here](#).

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## The Beta Network

- **Dean Lemont `91** was recently featured in the CMU *Centralight* magazine. Dean was one of 19 Summer Theatre alums who returned to the campus to deliver a special fundraising performance of the Neil Simon play *The Good Doctor*. From the article: "Lemont is a Los Angeles based actor who has appeared in numerous national commercials and television shows such as FX's *The Shield*...The play meant coming full circle for Lemont. *The Good Doctor* was the first play he saw at CMU as a student."  
You can download the article [here](#).
- **Jay Catania `99** writes: To give a quick update, my wife Renee and boys Joseph (4) and Ben (1) are doing great. I'm hoping to raise two future Betas. I hope all is well with everyone. There are so many brothers that I would love to get in contact with but have not been able to. I have no excuse other than giving a very lazy effort in attempting to contact them.  
Recently Tom Santilli, James Eschelbach, Andrew McDonald and myself went to see Jimmy Buffett in Chicago. What a great time. Ends up that it was both Tom's and my eleventh Buffett concert. I know I haven't been as involved in the chapter as I would like and want to start showing my face a bit more. I was hoping some time I could come up for a special event and fix up an Italian feast for the Chapter. I have had a few brothers say they missed it. Currently I am in my third hour American History class at Upton Middle School in St. Joseph, Michigan and can't get into great detail although I did want to get a few ideas that were bouncing around in my head out to all of you while my students are filling out some paper work. I wish all of you the best and hope to here from you soon.  
Oh, all of you fishermen, the salmon are coming and steelies soon to follow. I would love to get a brotherhood fishing trip going possibly this year. My vice has been getting a workout lately and I am eager to get on the water and wet a few flies.  
My home phone is 269-465-4955

Cell 269-426-0053  
Work 269-926-3454  
-kai-  
eg236  
Jason Catania

- **Kevin Brockman `95** writes: I am writing because we have some Exciting News! On Sunday, September 17th, we took our son Avery to participate in the New York City Buddy Walk to support the National Down Syndrome Society! His picture was chosen to be shown on the BIG SCREEN in Times Square! This big event also landed him on the front page of the Farmington Observer.  
<http://snipurl.com/wan4>

We are sharing this because we are seeking sponsors to support him on his walk. Our goal is to raise at least \$3,000 for the National Down Syndrome Society. Any level of support is appreciated.

Your 2006 New York City Buddy Walk contribution will help strengthen the National Down Syndrome Society's ability to serve the individuals with Down syndrome and their families impacted by this genetic condition. Last year alone, over \$5 million dollars was raised nation-wide for local and national education, research and advocacy programs.

Here is the link with all of the details!

[http://join.buddywalk.org/site/TR?px=1156156&pg=personal&fr\\_id=1392&s\\_tafld=5892](http://join.buddywalk.org/site/TR?px=1156156&pg=personal&fr_id=1392&s_tafld=5892)

or

<http://snipurl.com/wan7>

## BETAS IN THE MILITARY

- --nothing new to report this month.

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

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## Happy Birthday

*By Tom Olver `98, EGHC president*

Thirty members of the Epsilon Gamma rolls will celebrate a birthday this month. The average age of these men is 33.2. The oldest brother with a birthday this month is **Max Patrick, #72** at 44 and the youngest is **Colony President Brandyn Lawson, #335**, at 20.

10/2	Ben Gallagher, #221	30	
10/3	Tim Bussineau, #129	36	
10/5	Kevin Brockman, #202		34
	Ross McCallum, #333	20	
10/7	Tim Nichols, #61	39	
10/9	David Haske, #318	25	
10/11	Dan Bigelow, #172	33	
10/12	Jason Edwards, #203	33	
10/13	Bil Boyd, #58	39	
10/14	Chris Gauss, #47	39	
10/15	Scott MacDonald, #286		27
10/16	Tim Kirkendall, #24	41	
	Brad Reaume, #87	39	
	Dave Ferricciolo, #149		37
10/18	Kevin Warnack, #234	28	
10/22	Matt Brauer, #79	39	
	Dean Lemont, #113	37	
10/23	Carlisle Braun, #262	27	
10/24	Max Hunsicker, #171	32	
10/25	Matt Burchart, #316	25	
10/26	Todd Lincoln, #67	41	
	Edward Budd, #110	36	
	John Knight, #248	28	
10/28	Brandyn Lawson, #335		20

10/29	Max Patrick, #72	44
	Mike Godwin, #154	35
	Jason Potter, #231	30
10/30	Kevin O'Shaughnessy, #99	38
	Ryan Walther, #265	26
10/31	Jon Eadie, #122	37

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  
[tolver@wooglin.com](mailto:tolver@wooglin.com)

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*For the Staunchest E-newsletter is compiled and edited by Scott Nadeau`89, EGHC Communications Director. If you have any questions or comments please send them to [scott.nadeau@epsilongamma.org](mailto:scott.nadeau@epsilongamma.org).*

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**The Epsilon Gamma Chapter of Beta Theta Pi Fraternity**  
[814 S. Main, Mount Pleasant, Michigan 48858](#)

**Housing Corporation: P.O. Box 151, Mount Pleasant, Michigan 48804**  
email: [webmaster@epsilongamma.org](mailto:webmaster@epsilongamma.org)

[www.epsilongamma.org](http://www.epsilongamma.org)

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