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BETA THETA PI

EPSILON GAMMA CHAPTER



For The Staunchest • eNewsletter • December 2010

This is our last eNewsletter for 2010! Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, and Happy Holidays...we'll see you in 2011! -Scott

Chapter Update

By Justin Mack '11, chapter public relations chairman



Soccer

The chapter lost in a hard fought game last Tuesday night to Phi Sigma Phi in the intramural soccer championships. Our undefeated first-seeded soccer team fell 2-1, giving them their second runner-up finish in the sport in three years. Brothers Tylere Presley and Spencer Matthews look forward to representing Beta in the league's all-star game this December.

Great job guys!

Initiation/25th

Nine new brothers were initiated on the morning of Saturday, November 13th in Mt. Pleasant at the Masonic Hall. The Alpha Psi pledge class now extends the chapter roll to 422 initiated members. In attendance were many prominent alums, including Epsilon Gamma number 1, Randall Scott Helman '84 and his father, honorary Epsilon Gamma number 200 Beta Ron Helman *Miami* '55.

Later that evening, the chapter gathered at the Comfort Inn Conference Center in Mt. Pleasant to celebrate their 25th anniversary. Nearly 200 Beta brothers, sweethearts, and guests gathered to celebrate a proud history. The program included videos from Brothers Drew Mason, '11, and Scott Nadeau, '89 as well as speeches a number of brothers, highlighted by Randy Helman's keynote address. Founding father Matthew Baad, '85 served as the Master of Ceremonies, while Brother Mason provided the evening's music.

"I couldn't believe how nicely everything turned out," Said brother and new initiate Adam Whitt, '15. "I met some remarkable brothers and had the time of my life laughing at their stories and telling them some of mine. I can't imagine a better initiation day!"

A special thanks goes to Banquet Chairman Thomas Bussineau '86, Brother Nadeau, the Housing Corporation, and the Anniversary's planning committee. Thank you so much for providing this experience for all of us!

Betas 'N Bowties

November 18th marked the chapter's second annual Betas 'N Bowties Pasta Dinner. The chapter opened its doors for three hours on that Thursday evening to welcome fellow students, staff, and community residents to enjoy a hot pasta dinner at the chapter house.

For the second year in a row, Beta Mom Ellen "Mama Elle" Devine

UPCOMING EVENTS

Final Exams

December 6-10, 2010

Spring Semester Begins

January 10, 2011

Keystone Leadership Conference

February 4 - 6, 2011

Wyndham Lisle Hotel - Lisle, Illinois

Housing Corporation Meeting

February 12, 2011 (Tentative)

Farmington Hills, Michigan

Seeber/Varner International Pig Roast

April 23, 2011 (Tentative)

Island Park - Mt. Pleasant, Michigan



[FULL EVENT CALENDAR](#)

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[One-Time donation](#)

OR

[Subscription Donation](#)

You can choose to donate to the house or non-housing activities.



Epsilon Gamma on the web:

provided the meal, cooking up a pasta dinner with dessert and a choice of sauce.

"We don't say it enough, but Mama Elle is proof-positive that this boat would have sunk years ago without the support of our parents," Philanthropy Chairman Travis Converse, '12 said. "It takes a special woman to drive for hours on end just to cook for a bunch of strangers. I don't know what we did to deserve her, but I'm sure glad we have her!"

The chapter raised just under \$700 to donate to the charitable cause of their choice.

Elections

As the year begins to come to an end, so too does the term of the Epsilon Gamma Chapter's 2010 Executive Board. And after a year of loyal service, the chapter would like to offer our immense respect and sincerest gratitude for the leadership and direction they've offered. But, in the true spirit of the Bridge Builder, we anxiously anticipate the passing of the guard as 8 new brothers will take on the privilege and burden of chapter leadership in the coming year.

The chapter gathered Sunday, November 21st to vote on the new chapter leadership and their hours of deliberation paid off. The chapter couldn't be more excited to announce its 2011 Executive Board Council, as we await their January transition.

For the office of the President, the chapter has elected Tylere Presley, '12; a pre-law major and Junior at CMU. Brother Presley has served most recently on the Executive Board as the chapter's Ritual Chairman, and informally as the chapter's bible study leader. A man of strong moral repute and an even stronger love for the chapter, brother Presley looks to continue Beta's reputation steadfast, confident leadership.

Serving as our newest Vice-President will be Robert Lane, '12. Brother Lane has built a very impressive resume as a campus leader in his years here, recently ending his term as the Residence Hall Assembly President. As Beta's philanthropy chairman, he was integral in the continuation of our King of the Wing philanthropy, and key to the creation of the Betas 'N Bowties pasta dinner, which just had an even more successful second year. We look to Robert to lead the chapter to another functionally sound year.

Keeping charge of the chapter's finances will be Joe Graffeo, '12. Brother Graffeo, an ROTC cadet and Student Government Association Officer already, will take the office of Treasurer this coming January with the hopes of maintaining the chapter's reputation for fiscal responsibility and financial health.

The chapter's next secretary will be brother Adam Chatterton, '13. Brother Chatterton looks to improve upon the already sound relationship with the General Fraternity, the University, and fellow Betas as he takes his position in the new year.

Continuing the Epsilon Gamma's proud history of outstanding Pledge Educators will be brother Kevin White, '12. Brother White served for the last year as the chapter's recruitment chairman, gathering two strong pledge classes along the way. As he accepts the charge of Pledge Educator, he does so with with an inspired mind and humbled heart.

Switching places with Brother White is Benjamin Love, '12. Currently the Pledge Educator, Brother Love will now serve as the chapter's newest Recruitment Chairman this winter. Overwhelmingly elected by the chapter, Brother Love looks forward to leading the chapter in finding its newest leaders this winter.

Unanimously elected, Brother Daniel Featherstone, '12, will begin in January as the chapter's ritual chairman. A former chorister and



leadership development chairman, Brother Featherstone hopes to continue to protect and promote the fraternity's ritual -- the very lifeblood of our organization.

And in his first position in the chapter, Brother Andrew DeSloover, 13 was elected this winter as the Chapter's newest Risk Management Chairman. Respected as a man of virtue and precaution, Brother DeSloover looks forward to protecting the self-governing chapter's reputation and independence.

Each of these brothers will formerly accept the charge of their office at the chapter's Kick-Off meeting in January. Until then, both Executive Boards will begin the transitioning into the new semester. So as the chapter enters this new semester, we do so with a renewed inspiration to serve the fraternity and 'raise Beta's name on high.' Truly the Beta Spirit is alive and well in Epsilon Gamma!

Seniors

Two Epsilon Gamma seniors will finish their last classes at CMU this semester. Brother Drew Mason, '11, will finish his education degree while student-teaching in a 4th grade science classroom for Sycamore Elementary School in Holt, Michigan.

"To the chapter, I would like to say thank you for all the support, guidance, and for the opportunity to devote myself to something great." Brother Mason said. "I hope my time here will be remembered, as I will never forget my experience and friendships in Beta. I am looking forward to coming back as an alumni and seeing Epsilon Gamma's continued growth, as I am confident in this chapter's active members to take our chapter to new heights. Thanks again for everything, and I'll be in touch!" Brother Lance Prins, '10, will receive his Bachelor's Degree in Political Science with a double minor in Legal and Leadership Studies this winter, then he'll join the United States Army. Brother Prins will join the U.S. Army Infantry in Fort Benning, Georgia on January 5th, as he completes the Reserve Officer Training Corps Program.

"I've always wanted to serve my country and this seems like the perfect time," Brother Prins told me. "Eventually I hope to become an Army Officer to lead others."

The chapter will formally say goodbye at the December 3rd senior send-off. The evening will include the fraternity's send-off ritual as well as a chapter bar crawl to end the evening. Best of luck in the future, guys!

mack1je@cmich.edu

Silver Anniversary Report

By Tom Bussineau '86, banquet chairman

The Silver Anniversary of the Epsilon Gamma Chapter of Beta Theta Pi was a very successful event. Nearly 170 alumni, actives, and guests attended the anniversary which was held at the Comfort Inn, Mt. Pleasant on November 13, 2010.

Drew Mason '10 started the evening with a [very inspirational video](#) on the history of Beta Theta Pi and Epsilon Gamma. A huge thanks goes to Drew and Scott Nadeau '89 for providing us with the best audio/video presentation that we have had at any anniversary.

Next, Matt Baad '85 was introduced as the master of ceremonies. Matt welcomed all our guests and brought Greg Compton '86 to the stage to lead us in the Beta Doxology. Dinner followed and the Comfort Inn served another great plate of steak and chicken.

The evening continued with a ["Welcome Back" video](#) produced by Brother Nadeau and several guest speakers. Chapter President, Thomas Ahearn '11, gave recognition to all awards the chapter has



received since the recolonization. Scott Nadeau went over the housing corporation report, presented an ["In Memoriam" video](#), presented a special "Pig Plaque" award to the Seeber's for creating and supporting the Pig Roast and recognized the alumni who have been Betas for 25 years by giving them a silver dragon pin. Also, Scott presented Tom Olver '98 with the Beta Theta Pi *Distinctive Service Award* for his many contributions to the chapter.

Randy Helman '84 was the keynote speaker. He gave us some historically antidotes on the beginnings of the chapter and reminded us it is our responsibility to recruit and develop the next leaders of our chapter.

Following Randy's speech we enjoyed watching Drew Mason's [Silver Anniversary Undergraduate Video](#).

Finally, General Fraternity Vice President Paul Schwartz, *Kansas State '65* gave us a brief state of the fraternity recap.

To finish the speaking portion of the evening, I was very proud to bring my son (and first Epsilon Gamma Chapter legacy) Tyler to the stage to recite the [Men of Principle Creed](#) with me.

The evening concluded with dance and music provided by Brother Mason. I want to thank the undergraduates for their active participation throughout the evening. This was one of the reasons why this was the best anniversary since the 10th celebration.

Many alumni said this was the best one ever. But, don't take my word for it. If you didn't attend, reach out to one of your brothers who did and ask them what they think. I am sure they will tell you that you missed a great time and you should have been there. (*Editor's Note: The 30th Anniversary Banquet is tentatively scheduled for November 7, 2015.*)

For those who did attend, thank you very much for helping us make this a memorable event. Without you, it wouldn't have been successful. Thank you for being a Beta!

tombussineau@suddenlink.net

A "Thank You" to my Dear Beta Friends

By Aletha Seeber, 1991 Beta Sweetheart

To my Dear Beta Friends,

Just a note to thank all of you who sent me get well cards and letters since my heart attack. Even when I was again re-hospitalized, you sent more cards. They are deeply appreciated. They mean a lot to me because they are from your heart and you touched my heart as you always have.

I also want to say congratulations on your 25th anniversary. I remember being at the Charter Banquet with my husband Bob Sr., along with our son Bob and his then future wife Teresa. I'm very proud of you. I've always treasured the warmth and gentlemanly way you've included me.

Thank you again,

Love from -
Aletha M. Seeber
Beta Theta Pi Sweetheart
Beta Mother
Beta Wife

President's Farewell Address

By Thomas Ahearn '11, chapter president

Dearest brother,

I would like to start my final message to you with a quote from The Sons of the Stars manual, the pledge book of Beta Theta Pi:



"Old man" said a pilgrim near, "You are wasting your strength in labor here; your journey will end with the closing day, you will never again pass this way. You've crossed the chasm deep and wide, why build this bridge at eventide?" The laborer lifted his old gray head, "Good friend, in the path I have come," he said, "There followeth, after me today a youth whose feet must pass this way. This chasm which has been naught to me to that young man may a pitfall be. He, too must cross in the twilight dim. Good friend, I am building this bridge for him."

This may be the most important quote that we will learn in our time as a brother of Beta Theta Pi. In my time as president I have always tried to carry out the poem's message by building a bridge that will make my successor's job that much more uncomplicated and I believe I have succeeded. Today we welcome as the new president of Epsilon Gamma, Tyler Presley '12. He is a dear friend in the fraternity and one who I have watched grow through my time here as an undergraduate. It is with a heavy heart that I step down but I am reassured by Tyler and his leadership ability. He will take this fraternity to new heights and continue the great tradition we have here at Epsilon Gamma.

As for myself I will be graduating this coming summer. But I am forever grateful for the opportunity that Beta has given me. As I conclude I would like to end with a quote from my favorite book, *The Faithful Home of the Three Stars*:

"My feelings towards Beta Theta Pi can best be described as a passion. A passion that not only grows with time, but also matures with time. I have come from being a boy with a wide-eyed infatuation with our fraternity, to a man with a genuine love for Beta Theta Pi. It is this love that drives me to say that I am now and always will be thankful to God I am a Beta." (Rick Jones, *South Dakota* 1990)

Once again I would like to say thank you from the bottom of my heart for your continued love and support for this fraternity. I hope all of you have a blessed and sacred holiday season. Take care and may Wooglin ever smile upon us!

Yours in __kai__,

Thomas R. Ahearn, Central Michigan '11
President, The Epsilon Gamma of Beta Theta Pi

ahear1tr@cmich.edu

New President's Message

By Tyler Pressley '11, new chapter president

Dear Brother,

I hope this letter find you and your loved ones well after spending much time this past weekend with friends and of course family. The Epsilon Gamma Chapter has recently elected me to the presidency and I am honored to accept the position. I have very high hopes for what this fraternity can achieve in the local community and the national. I do not doubt that with your support that Epsilon Gamma will excel in what it wants to do.

I am excited to see Epsilon Gamma flourish over this next year. I plan on upholding the traditions that our chapter has, while instilling new traditions that will only move us forward in our quest for greatness. It will be my pleasure to meet with many of you at the pig roast and the golf outing this summer.

I cannot express how grateful I am to be leading this chapter at this time. I hope many of you will be active in our growth and our triumphs as we continue to move forward.

Yours in __kai__,
Tyler Presley, EG 386
Central Michigan '12



President, Beta Theta Pi of Epsilon Gamma

pres1tr@gmail.com

The Beta Network

To send in your update, go [here](#) or send a message to communications@epsilongamma.org.

- **Jason Potter**, EG 231 and Central Michigan University graduate in 1999, has landed in Daytona Beach, Florida working for the NASCAR Grand-Am Series as their Manager of Sales & Partnerships. His career start in motorsports in 1997 as an Intern at Michigan International Speedway operated both by Penske Motorsports and International Speedway Corporation and continued through 2007 in various motorsports capacities. In 2009, Jason joined the NFL-Houston Texans and spend a short time in south Florida working for the NHL-Florida Panthers in 2010 before landing his dream job in Daytona Beach. "I'm very blessed and excited to be with NASCAR and look forward to the exciting challenges that lie ahead" said Jason, "It was always my career dream to work for NASCAR and preparation finally met the opportunity."

This Month's Birthdays

By Greg Compton '86, founding father

Wish your brother a very happy birthday.
Decembrrrrrrr Birthdays



Sean O'Bryan	Dec. 01	47	
Matt Hegenauer	Dec. 02	45	
Chris Thelander	Dec. 02	40	
Paul Marquardt	Dec. 02	33	
Justin Warnack	Dec. 03	31	
Kyle Russell	Dec. 04	32	
David Partaka	Dec. 04	32	
Todd Wood	Dec. 04	25	
Matt Petrusha	Dec. 04	22	
Matt Cagle		Dec. 05	30
Norm Klein	Dec. 07	26	
Shane Farrell	Dec. 07	23	
Ryan Ward	Dec. 08	29	
Kevin Clark	Dec. 09	29	
Matt Graves	Dec. 12	29	
Todd Miller		Dec. 13	41
Eric Dumont	Dec. 13	32	
Hugh Witham	Dec. 16	44	
Tobin Bailey	Dec. 18	39	
Josh Tilley	Dec. 18	30	
Trent VanWormer	Dec. 22	31	
John Doyle	Dec. 23	32	
Brian McCormick	Dec. 24	39	
Matthew Simkins	Dec. 25	42	
Kyle Schierlinger	Dec. 25	22	
Jacob Zolynsky	Dec. 28	22	
John Knaus	Dec. 29	43	
Scott Verbeke	Dec. 30	35	
David Steiner	Dec. 31	35	
John Parker	Dec. 31	30	

Oldest: Sean O'Bryan. Youngest: Jacob Zolynsky 22.
Ave. age is 33.07 years.

These are the birthdays I have for December. If any of you are not listed or are listed incorrectly, please

contact me and I will change it or add it to my major list. Have a great birthday brothers!

compton@aaps.k12.mi.us

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

Housing Corporation: c/o 7148 Ulrich, Dexter, Michigan 48130
webmaster@epsilongamma.org

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