

For The

STAUNCHEST

EPSILON GAMMA NEWSLETTER

BETA THETA PI FRATERNITY

CENTRAL MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

FALL 2007

HOMECOMING 2007

by Barbara "Beta Mom" Koehn

When you think of BETA...
You think Central...

When you think of Central...
You think of Football...

When you think of Football...
You think of Homecoming...

When you think of Homecoming...
ing....

You should think of **BUBBA'S BETA BRUNCH !!**

Saturday, September 29, 2007, 9:30 am - 11:00 am

Please join us at 814 S. Main on Homecoming morning for BUBBA'S BETA BRUNCH!

Hosted by Paul ("Bubba") and Barbara ("Beta Mom") Koehn. Barb will once again be preparing a fine meal for the boys of EG and their friends and families.



Your Hosts: Paul "Bubba" Koehn and Barbara "Beta Mom" Koehn. Phil Adler, Tom Olver and Phil's Dog Sara also pictured.

Don't forget the parade is @ 10am. Come watch from the front porch or curbside!

After brunch, alumni can head on over to Alumni Village at Rose Ponds, hosted by CMU. Join the campus wide celebration between the ponds for food, friends and fun! You can visit with a favorite professor, say hello to a few old friends, or just soak up the atmosphere that is CMU Homecoming.

There is no cost for this event.

Next, head to Kelly Shorts Stadium to see the Chippewas (and Team Athletic Trainer/Brother Phil Adler '98) take on Northern Illinois. To order game tickets please call the Athletic Ticket Office at 1-888-FIREUP2 or visit them on the web at www.cmuchippewas.com. Kick-off is scheduled at 12 noon.

If your staying in town for the night, CMU is hosting a Homecoming Reception in the Bovee UC Rotunda. Swing by the UC... all alumni are invited! So come one, come all, to the Homecoming Reception! (casual attire). ☘

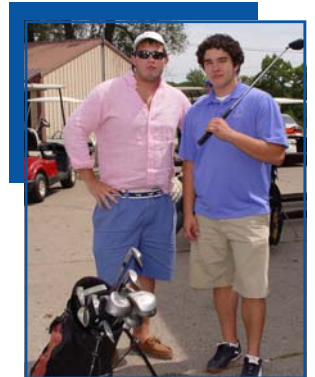
EG IS ON A ROLL!

By Brandyn Lawson '09, colony president

For those that don't already know, the Colony ended its last year on a very high note – by being awarded the Presidents cup. This award is given out by the office of Greek Life to the top fraternity and sorority on campus. Needless to say, we are all very excited to have been recognized in this manner.

In the wake of receiving the Presidents cup, we also received several awards at the 168th General Convention in Orlando, Florida:

- The Virginia Tech award for the most improved GPA in the Fraternity.
- The Virginia Tech award for top GPA in the region among Beta chapters.
- The Charles Henry Hardin Leadership Development Award.
- The North Dakota award honorable mention for the newsletter.



Lawson and Vice President Phil Klassen at the golf outing

For the Colony, these awards were the capstone of a great summer filled with leadership development and brotherhood, and are propelling us into the fall with a renewed vigor. One of the Colony's overarching goals this year is to receive our charter along with a Knox award for chapter excellence at the 169th Convention in Dallas next summer. Toward that end we have begun the recruitment process, and are looking to recruit a large class of quality men this semester.

Lastly, I would like to invite everyone to come home to Epsilon Gamma for homecoming this year. This is a perfect chance to make connections with the new brothers, as well as reconnect with old ones. ☘

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Advising Team Update

By Greg Compton '86, chapter counselor



Chapter Counselor:

Greg Compton '86
(734) 484-1476
compton@aaps.k12.mi.us

For a full listing of
advising team
members and contact
information visit:
www.epsilongamma.org

THE PULSE of EGAT

Greetings brothers from the advisory team, and oh what a team we have. Yes, say it ain't so, but we have a full compliment of members for the first time in many years. I thank everyone who has become involved.

This year will be the year for the advising team to do its job with the undergraduates, for this year we go for the charter. It's a big task for the Colony and for me as chapter counselor. But, it's a task that I am familiar with. As an undergrad I helped put together a petition for charter without an advising group, so we should be able to be successful.

We had our first meeting of the advising team and the Colony executive board on Saturday, September 8, 2007. We addressed this task as a team and then determined how to help the undergrads accomplish their goals along with being able to keep up with their schooling.



Colony President Brandyn Lawson '08 and Compton at the Pig Roast

We plan to have a calendar of events for the year posted on the web site, so please feel free to join us. You might find that you have something to offer as an alumnus. This is it folks - the year we will make our mark in a positive way of bringing Beta back to CMU. Hope to see many of you at homecoming. 🦊

The President's Cup Story

By Brandyn Lawson '09, colony president

[Reprinted from www.epsilongamma.org - posted April 24, 2007]

We created a video a few weeks ago for the Greek Awards of Excellence presentations. The awards ceremony was this evening (Tuesday, April 24) and it brings me great pleasure to relate to you all the outcome.

First, regarding our presentation:

We did not win the award for most creative/best themed presentation this year. That award went to Lambda Chi Alpha and I believe Delta Phi Epsilon. That being said, Tom Idema (Greek advisor - Student Life) announced to the entire Greek community that there was one group whose presentation was so outstanding that a new award had to be created. This award, for what the judges all felt was the best presentation that they had ever seen (Tom Idema's words, not mine) went to the brothers of Beta Theta Pi.

Tom then told those in attendance that this presentation gave the judges chills, and was so inspiring that he and Kristin felt everyone should see it. He then proceeded to show it on several screens.

That said, we also did not win the award for most improved chapter, which our presentation was geared towards. This perturbed us, until we were presented with:

The Presidents Cup

Which, as you all are certainly aware, is given to the top fraternity and sorority on campus.

Congratulations, and thank you, to all who have helped us achieve so much success this year. We look forward to many more years of Epsilon Gamma at Central Michigan University.

Also, please congratulate Brother John Morelli '09, who was selected as best IFC representative.

[The video can be viewed at: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7vh7R8z-3pE>] 🦊



EGHC Awards \$3,250 in Scholarships

By Scott Sawyer '99, EGHC vice president

The Epsilon Gamma Housing Corporation (EGHC) has awarded 10 scholarships to eight Beta Theta Pi undergraduates, totaling \$3,250. The EGHC thanks all of its alumni donors for supporting this scholarship program and the Board of Directors looks forward to providing many additional scholarships in the coming years. This year's recipients clearly demonstrate that they believe in the standards set forth by Beta Theta Pi.

Brandyn Lawson '09 of Sandusky, Mich., received the Trevor J. Wisniewski '91 and Bryan D. Hix '93 \$500 scholarship. Lawson has a 3.35 GPA while studying finance and leadership. He has held such positions for the Fraternity as vice president, secretary, philanthropy chairman and social chairman. Lawson currently serves as chapter president.

Philip Klassen '09 of Muskegon, Mich., received the David J. Dennis '95 \$500 scholarship. Klassen has a 3.88 GPA while studying accounting. Klassen has held the position of scholarship chairman and is the current treasurer for the Fraternity.

John Morelli '09 of Warren, Mich., received the Jeffrey D. Hughes '94 and Family \$500 Scholarship. Morelli has a 3.66 GPA while majoring in sports studies at CMU. He has served as risk manager and is the current vice president for the Fraternity.

Matthew Bush '08 of Mt. Pleasant, Mich., received the Donna & Steven Swindell '85 \$250 Scholarship and the James P. Cone '99 \$250 Scholarship. Bush has a 3.18 GPA while studying political science. He has held the positions of president, vice president, treasurer, pledge educator, alumni relations chairman, ritual chairman, scholarship chairman and social chairman for the Fraternity.

Chris Mueller '09 of Grandville, Mich., received the Grant Armand Kersten Jr. '86 \$250 Scholarship and the Mark A. Hess '93 \$250 Scholarship. Mueller has a 3.31 GPA while studying English and interpersonal and public communications. He has served as public relations chairman, pledge educator and KAI Committee member.

Drew Mason '10 of Lansing, Mich., received the Audra & Keith Nagel '89 \$250 Scholarship. Mason has a 3.87 GPA while majoring in education. He has held the position of chorister for the Fraternity.

Jamelle Dooley '10 of Naperville, Ill., received the Oren A. Lane '85 \$250 Scholarship. Dooley has a 2.8 GPA while studying health fitness and family studies. He is a campus multicultural advisor.

John Reineke '09 of Brighton, Mich., received the Kevin P. Brockman '95 \$250 Scholarship. Reineke has a 3.62 GPA while studying marketing and personal financial planning.

The EGHC scholarship committee congratulates the 2007 scholarship recipients and thanks the alumni scholarship contributors. ❧

Witte Receives Spring 2007 Baad Scholarship

By Tom Olver '98, EGHC president

The Epsilon Gamma Housing Corporation recently awarded a \$200 academic scholarship to **Steven J. Witte '10**, 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.

Witte, a biomedical science and neuroscience double major from Lowell, Mich., earned a 3.81 during the spring semester. "I joined Beta because of how it stood apart from other fraternities," offers Witte. "Last fall I never would have dreamed of joining a fraternity, but when I was introduced to the Betas, I noticed they were all men of amazing character. They are a great group of guys who will undoubtedly be successful later in life. I knew I had to join."

His goals for the Colony include recruiting a large pledge class, obtaining the charter, earning the highest GPA on campus and winning Presidents Cup for a second consecutive time. As for his personal goals, Witte would like to get into medical school and work for the Air Force.

In addition to the scholarship, Witte will have the privilege of wearing the "Baad badge" — a custom made Fraternity pin bearing Baad's name and roll number — until the fall 2007 recipient is announced early next year.

More than a dozen annual scholarship funds have been established by Chapter alumni through a special ongoing *Capital Fundraising Initiative*. More than \$7,000 — divided into \$250 and \$500 scholarships — has been awarded to undergraduate members of Beta Theta Pi since January 2006.

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. ❧



Housing Corporation Report

By Thomas Olver '98, EGHC president

Fall is in the Air

The dog days of summer are coming to a close as college football season returns and the night air begins to turn just a little bit cooler. Our undergraduate brothers are back in Mt. Pleasant, ready to kick-off what promises to be a memorable year at Central Michigan

University.

We're pleased to have nine brothers living in the house this fall (our largest delegation since 2002-03.) These young men continue to make us proud and we look forward to supporting them in their bid to petition for charter at next summer's 169th General Convention in Dallas. If you haven't had a chance to meet these exceptional brothers, be sure to visit the house for Bubba's Beta Brunch during Homecoming on September 29. We'd like to thank Paul "Bubba" and Barb Koehn for their generous and continued support of Epsilon Gamma.

Jon Eadie and Mike Wharton deserve a round of snaps for their hard work on the 18th annual Epsilon Gamma Golf Outing, which was held at Brae Burn in Plymouth, August 18. It was a great afternoon of golf, poker and brotherhood. During the dinner, EGHC Vice President Scott Sawyer presented eight undergraduate members with a record-breaking \$3,250 in academic scholarships for 2007-08. Special thanks to the brothers who have made these annual scholarships possible through their generous contributions!

In total, our ongoing *Capital Fundraising Initiative* has raised more than \$104,000 in campaign pledges to support academic scholarships, leadership development sponsorships, and house renovations and furnishings. To date, we have collected more than \$40,000 from alumni, parents and Friends of Beta. More information is available at www.epsilongamma.org.

At its annual meeting, August 11, the EGHC decided to expand the Board from nine to 12 members. Matt Brauer, Jon Eadie, Will Hilliker and Mike Wharton have each accepted a three-year term as directors; we thank them for their support and dedication, and look forward to working with them in the weeks and months ahead. Scott Nadeau, Scott Sawyer and I will continue in our roles as communications director, vice president and president (respectively) for 2007-08. In other business, the Board adopted the FY-08 budget, agreed to



Olver presents outgoing Director Charles Parker '90 with a recognition plaque during the Housing Corporation meeting on August 11.

pursue a voluntary alumni membership program to support the successful Initiation Incentive program and discussed holding a Poker tournament in the Detroit area this winter.

As you can see, there are many exciting things going on in the world of Epsilon Gamma. We invite you to be a part of it as we continue to transition our organization into one that will serve as the exemplary standard for fraternities at Central Michigan and throughout Beta's Broad Domain. Please plan to join us in Mt. Pleasant for Homecoming. Go Chips! 🍪

EGHC Officers:

President:
Tom Olver '98

Vice President:
Scott Sawyer '98

Communications:
Scott Nadeau '89

Directors:
Steve Grenus '88
John Coe '91
Bob Hempton '89
Marty Kaiser '01
Jon Eadie '93
Mike Wharton '93
Matt Brauer '90
Will Hilliker '98
Brandyn Lawson '09

Olver Extends Service To Fraternity

From www.thebetathetapi.org web site

Administrative Secretary Judson A. Horras, *Iowa State '97* is pleased to announce that Director of Communications and Editor Thomas C. Olver, *Central Michigan '98* has extended his agreement to serve the Fraternity through the end of 2010. In addition to overseeing the activities of the communications department, Olver will focus on Beta Theta Pi's affinity programs, merchandising and marketing efforts.

"Tom has greatly enhanced the Fraternity's communications efforts, effectively utilizing technological advancements to creatively share information about Beta Theta Pi's continued success with a wide range of constituents," noted Horras. "He'll put his creativity and dedication to work, enhancing Beta's licensed vendor programs, and I'm encouraged that Tom will continue to be a part of our team for another three years."

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18th Annual Epsilon Gamma Golf Outing

By Mike Wharton '93 and Jon Eadie '93 Golf Outing co-chairmen

Thank you to all who attended the 2007 Golf Outing and Poker Tournament. I think it is safe to say it was a complete success. The weather was beautiful for most of the day and the rain held off until the last group made it into the clubhouse.

The A Flight Champions with a one over 71 was Terry Turkelson and Aaron McConnell, who won free entry into next year's event. Terry and Aaron were two shots clear of three groups at 73. The B Flight Champions with an 86 was Ken Breen and Scott Nadeau. The Long Drive prize was shared by Ken "The Hammer" Breen and Michael "Big Gun" Wharton. Chad Saha won the closest to the pin.

The drama for the night was provided by the Innagural Texas Hold'em Tournament. Undergrad Robby Hunter took out Chris Hayes to win the first prize. Michael Wharton won third place.

Thank you to Tom Olver, Dan Bigelow, John Coe, Jim Harkness, Chris Martin, Chad Saha for your help and support. A special thanks to Trevor Wisniewski for all his help on the day of the event and to Trevor and Steve Desmet for running the poker tournament; Tim McGovern for running the Skins Game, and especially to Scott Nadeau for all the support. Without you guys the Golf Outing wouldn't have been as successful as it was.

We had a great time organizing the event and look forward to an even bigger and better outing next year. 🍷



This year's golf outing attendees in the clubhouse at Brae Burn Golf Club in Plymouth, Mich.

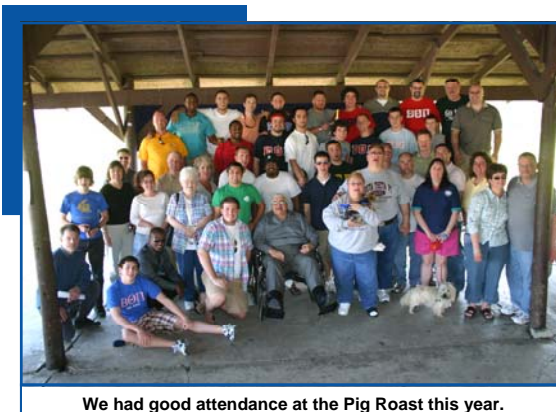
Pig Roast 2007 By Scott Nadeau '89, EGHC communications director

Pig Roast and Family day was a lot of fun this year. We doubled our attendance from last year, the pig tasted great, we had plenty of food, and a lot more alums showed up than I expected! It was also great for me to get to meet a lot of the parents.

Doug Varner, the son of "International Pig Roaster" Lenny Varner was on hand this year. He wanted me to let everyone know that Lenny is doing fine. Also making a special appearance just in time to carve the pig was perennial amateur pig carver Bob Seeber Jr. All of the parents who made the trek to Mt. Pleasant for the day brought a lot of great food, and Barbara Koehn's famous caramel bars put smiles on the faces of many people.

One of the highlights of the day came right after dinner when President Brandyn Lawson '09 asked every Beta who was in attendance, starting with low roll, to introduce themselves to the group and say a few words. It took a while to finish, but it was one of those Beta experiences that pumps you up and gets you excited about the direction Epsilon Gamma is headed.

The founders awards were then handed out by Founder and Colony Counselor Greg "six of six" Compton '86. We ended the day with a rousing rendition of *I Took My Girl Out*



We had good attendance at the Pig Roast this year.

(Continued on page 7)



Let us know what's going on in your life!

Send in your Beta Network News at www.epsilongamma.org

Your news will be added to the web site, included in the monthly E-newsletter and appear here in the next issue of *For the Staunchest*.

BETA NETWORK NEWS: *compiled since April 2007*

Jason Potter '99 writes: In May of 2005, I accepted a position with Sport Dimensions Inc. as their director of business development and relocated to Houston, Texas. A year later in May 2006, I founded Dynamic Motorsports Consulting in Houston, Texas and serve as president & CEO. We focus primarily on NASCAR and offer business consulting services to race teams, celebrities, drivers and sponsors. One of my clients is Nancy Cartwright, the Emmy-winning voice of Bart Simpson so as you can imagine, I'm sincerely enjoying the experience. I wish everyone all the best for continued success and remember "Effort Equals Results"!!!!

Todd Finnin '96 writes: Erin Koehler my fiancée and I get married on May 5th, 2007 at the Phoenix Zoo. Erin and I live in North Phoenix with the coyotes, snakes and lizards. My daughter is now eight years old and as wonderful as can be. She told me the other day that she was a Verve Pipe fan after she listened to one of my CDs. Does this mean that we are getting old? Anyway, I would also like to congratulate the Colony on initiating another group of leaders.



Tom Parr '03 writes: Jackie (CMU Sigma Kappa '01) and I just had our first child! Keegan Charles Parr was born April 18th at 3:41 pm. He was 9

lbs. 5 oz. and 21" long. Mom and baby are doing great. Other than an unplanned C-section, everything went fine. I'm enjoying my new role as "Dad" and can't wait to raise my future Beta. If anyone has some good pointers for newborns, I'd love to hear 'em!

John Coe '91 writes: Hello friends and family! It's a Boy! Grayson Coe was born May 11, 2007 at 6:22 am. Height: 20-3/4" (side note: re-measured next day @ 21-1/2") Weight: 7# 12oz. Parents: Proud! Everyone is home now and very happy and healthy.

Ben Reedy '08 writes: So guys...Jamie delivered our little boy 5/15/07 at 4:33 pm and he's basically the most beautiful thing I've ever seen. He's was born at just 29 weeks so that will explain the incubator and what not, however he is doing very well. Little Christian Michael will be coming home with us toward the end of July so he has a little ways to go but not too long! Thank all of you being a special part of my life, I hope you can share in this joy with us. Babies truly are a miracle.

Robbie Lopez '93 and his partner, Jim Shue, brought their adopted daughter, Riley Marie Lopez-Shue, home on June 1, 2007. She was born on May 2, 2007. Dads and daughter are doing great.

Jeff Wandzel '89 writes: We finalized the adoption of Adam Jeffrey Wandzel in a Russian court on June 22nd and brought him home on June 28th. It was a very interesting experience



where I had to give a 15 minute speech to the judge and convince him on why we should be allowed to adopt this child. We were asked a lot of very personal questions by the judge and prosecutor, but we managed to pass the test. He is two years old and is from Archangelsk, Russia, which is as far northwest as you can go in the country. We were there on the first day of summer and it actually snowed for a few hours. He is adjusting well and starting to learn a few English words.

Jim Zavsza '91 writes: I have been married to my wife, Traci, for more than 13 years (we met in 1989). I have two boys, Jacob--10 years old, and Nathan--7 years old. I have worked at Compuware for more than 12 years, the last seven years in the IS Department as a system developer. I moved from St. Clair Shores to Clinton Township two years ago.

Matt Hegenauer '88 writes: My wife Ranve and I are moving down to the Detroit metro area this fall from Suttons Bay. She has to complete her studies for mortuary licensing at Wayne State for about a year and a half until we move back up north (her family owns a funeral home there.) This all came about kind of quick; we have a temporary place to live in Farmington this fall but we need to find something more permanent for a year or so. If anyone knows of a decent place to rent within an hour or so of Wayne State we'd appreciate any leads. Cell phone is 231-715-4414 or email: megahega@earthling.net ☘

Betas in the Military

There have been no new reports since our last newsletter went out in April, 2007.

DeRoche to be "Executive in Residence"

By Scott Nadeau '89, EGHC communications director

Paul DeRoche '91 will be visiting the CMU College of Business Administration (CBA) in October as the Dow Corning "Executive in Residence." According to the CMU website, The Executive in Residence program was established in 1989 to provide faculty and students with the opportunity to interact with prominent executives in an open exchange of views on current issues and to gain valuable insight into the complexities of the business world as well as integrate practical experience into the students' base of knowledge.

Paul was approached last year by some CMU friends who serve on the Alumni Board of Directors to think about joining the group. Soon thereafter, Executive Director of Alumni Relations Mary Lu Yardley met with Paul during a lunch meeting and by the end of lunch, he had agreed to join the Board. His term will begin this summer. I'll let Paul tell the rest of the story:



Paul DeRoche '91 enjoying a snack at the 2007 golf outing.

"I've always wanted to teach business. Just for fun, rather than a career. Perhaps at a community college. This would be in addition to my career as a financial advisor. I started my MBA at Michigan about two years ago for this purpose. I will be done this summer."

"While at Homecoming this past fall I visited the alumni area and Mary Lu introduced me to Mike Fields, the current dean of the Business School. I told him that I would love to come back and teach a class of some sort - even if just for a day. He said he had something in mind. He contacted me some time later and invited me to do the Executive in Residence program."

For Paul, the day will consist of giving a keynote address to the CBA and teaching several classes throughout the day.

"I'm looking forward to speaking with the students. I plan to divide the talk into two groups. When I speak to the larger group, I plan to keep things general, such as setting goals and acting on them. When I speak to the individual classes, I plan to get more into the details of the investment business."

When I asked Paul how the Fraternity helped him help prepare him for success he answered:

"The Fraternity? Well, you know I love the Fraternity. Things like goal setting and time management were learned there. It was Oren Lane who helped me find one of my first jobs in the business."

Paul has been a staunch supporter of the Epsilon Gamma Chapter since his graduation in 1991. He served several years on the Alumni Association Board, including serving as president in the late 90s. Paul is also a contributor to EG's *Capital Fundraising Initiative* and is playing an active role in the design of the Paul M. DeRoche Library on the third floor of the Beta House. 🦋

Pig Roast 2007

(Continued from page 5)

Walking sang by all of the brothers in attendance.

A special "Thank You" goes out to brothers Jim Harkness '90 and Paul "Bubba" Koehn for chipping in for the cost of the Pig. Another big "Thanks" to brother Jeff Wandzel '89 for donating the cost of renting the shelter from the City.

Most of the credit belongs to brother Shane Farrell '10 and all of the guys at CMU who put on a top notch event.

...and now for the big announcement!

Brothers Robert A. Seeber and Robert F. Seeber have kindly stepped forward to sponsor the event beginning next year. By sponsoring the event, the Seeber's also have earned the right to name the event. Beginning now and going forward, the event will be known as:

The Robert A. Seeber / Lenny Varner International Pig Roast

Thank you Bob & Bob!! See you next year! 🦋

Olver Extends Service To Fraternity

(Continued from page 4)

Olver joined the administrative office staff as associate director of risk management in January 1999. He was named editor of *The Beta Theta Pi* magazine in December 2001 and became director of communications in April 2005. Olver has served as president of the Epsilon Gamma (Central Michigan) Housing Corporation since January 2001 and was elected president of the College Fraternity Editors Association (CFEA) in May 2007. 🦋

UPCOMING EVENTS:

CMU Homecoming `07

Saturday, September 29, 2007
CMU vs. Northern Illinois

Three Fires

Friday, October 26, 2007
Details TBA on www.epsilongamma.org

Colony Trip to Oxford

November 10, 2007

Initiation Week

November 11 - 17, 2007

Alumni Dinner

November 16, 2007
814 S. Main - Mt. Pleasant, MI



BETA THETA PI