



STAUNCHEST

EPSILON GAMMA NEWSLETTER

BETA THETA PI FRATERNITY

CENTRAL MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

SPRING 2007

Colony Update

by Shane Farrell, EG secretary

It has been a busy few weeks for us since our newsletter arrived in your mail.

First of all, the brothers of the Epsilon Gamma colony initiated eight gentlemen on Saturday the 17th of March. This brings our number of active members up from twelve to twenty men.



The colony on the front steps of the Beta House - Spring Initiation 2007

Along with what has been a tremendous year for recruitment, we are also meeting all of the directives that the general fraternity has set out for us, and all of the goals that we have set out for ourselves this year.

In the coming weeks we will be participating in Greek Week, taking a trip to Miami University in Ohio, holding a risk management retreat, performing an honorary initiation ceremony and organizing and holding the Pig Roast.

With all of the positive strides the Epsilon Gamma colony has taken over this past year, we fully intend to earn our charter back at the General Convention in the summer of 2008. ☘

2007 Pig Roast

By Scott Nadeau '89, EGHC communications chair

The pig roast this year will be held April 21st at **Island Park**. By my count, this will be the 19th annual pig roast. I know that in the newsletter that the undergraduates sent out it was printed as taking place at Mission Creek Park. That is incorrect. The Pig Roast will be at **Island Park**.

Once again we have rented a shelter. The "International Pig Roasting" Varner family will be roasting the swine on-site. The event is planned as a relaxing afternoon of fun and camaraderie and a celebration of the passing of a successful school year in the life of our fraternity.

Here's the schedule:

- 10:00 Honorary Initiation Ceremony (See page 2)
- 11:00 - 12:30 - House Tours
- 12:30 - 3:00 - Activities at the Park
- 3:00 - Dinner
- 4:00 - EG Founders Awards Ceremony

The event is BYOB and everyone is expected to bring a dish or two to pass. You are also encouraged to bring your outdoor games like horseshoes, jarts, bocce ball, etc.

We are still looking for a Beta alumni sponsor for the pig roast though the *Capital Fundraising Initiative*, so we will be asking for people to chip in to offset the costs of roasting the pig. I call it "The Pig Fund."

If you have an interest in sponsoring the pig roast and/or donating to "The Pig Fund," check out our web site or contact me. My home number is: (734) 426-2302.

E-mail: scott.nadeau@epsilongamma.org ☘

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Welcome Our New Initiates!

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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

You all remember the days of long nights. We stayed up talking about life, and just stuff. We would talk about our dreams and aspirations. We would talk about our conquests, even if some of it was a stretch of the truth, but we all had a story to tell at one time or another. These conversations would go into the wee hours of the morning. Well, since the age of 22, the endless nights, which ended in the morning, have not been the norm; instead, feeling that it is time for bed at 9:00 is more the common theme. So, what happened to me on Friday, March 23rd was quite the anomaly.

The Friday activity was the Three Fires Ritual held at President Brandyn Lawson's family cottage just outside of Farwell, Michigan. Events went off without a hitch, well except for Mark Anderson tripping in the snow. It was pretty funny. At least he was a good sport about it. After the ritual was completed we gathered ourselves up, went back to the cottage and warmed up. We went upstairs and conducted an Eye. We finished six hours later at four in the morning. That wasn't all as we went on to do some more conversations and such until just after five. Some of the actives stayed up and played Texas Hold'em. This lasted to at least 7:00 a.m. It was a long night and late morning.

The whole situation may have challenged me to be able to stay up, and to be able to be a dad later that day, but it was well worth it. Not only did it allow me

to get to know the membership, but share some time with Scott Nadeau as well. Clearly it was beneficial to me, and I hope the colony as well. It was a bonding evening, and a good time, even without alcohol.

The part I wish to share with you the most is the fact that my job has become a bit simpler. The reason for this is due to the colony actually acting like a fraternity. They had it all together. They had great attendance, and they had everything that they needed. (The most important, being the key to Brandyn's cottage.)



A few guys stayed up until 7:00 in the morning playing Texas Hold'em

I have to admit that I was becoming a bit weepy because I was so happy to see that they did not need my prompting, or advice to conduct the trip to the cottage or for the experience. This is one of the biggest steps in Epsilon Gamma returning to its stature at Central Michigan. I was truly overwhelmed by the

whole experience, and it is great to see the camaraderie between the brothers. The interactions were so reminiscent of the days of yore when I was an undergrad.

I encourage anyone who can make it to some of the upcoming events and activities to visit with the group. The brothers and new members are in a class all by themselves. I am sure that just by looking at them that you would be able to tell that they are Betas.

After interacting with them, you will be able to confirm it by the way that they carry themselves. Epsilon Gamma is a force to be reckoned with now and in the future. ☘

Honorary initiation to take place April 21

The Epsilon Gamma colony is planning to hold an honorary initiation ceremony beginning at 10:00 am on the morning of April 21, 2007, the same day as the Pig Roast. The initiation will take place at the Beta house at 814 S. Main in Mt. Pleasant.

Up to three fathers of current undergraduate members will join the rolls of the Epsilon Gamma Chapter. Previous father initiates include Robert A. Seeber (EG 83) and Paul "Bubba" Koehn (EG 241.)

All initiated members of the Chapter are encouraged to attend this special event. ☘



Previously Initiated Dads & Sons
On the left - The Seebers (Bob Sr. & Jr)
On the right - Paul "Bubba" Koehn & Phil Adler

Spring 2007 Scholarships Announced

By Scott Sawyer '99, EGHC Vice President

The Epsilon Gamma Housing Corporation (EGHC) of Beta Theta Pi Fraternity is proud to announce this semester's scholarship recipients. This marks the third time that the EGHC has awarded scholarships to undergraduates from money raised through the ongoing capital fundraising campaign. The recipients of these awards all show a dedication to the principles of Beta Theta Pi Fraternity.

The Matthew W. Mularoni '95 Scholarship (\$250) and the Grant Armand Kersten Jr. '86 Scholarship (\$250) have been awarded to Todd Brandon Wood '08. Wood (EG340), a junior at Central, has a 2.95 GPA with a history major and an ROTC minor. Todd received the General Motors Award (given to the freshman in ROTC who has the highest GPA) and he is the vice president of the National Society of Collegiate Scholars. Todd also has been a part of the Queen's Guard Drill Team, Cannon Club, Program Board and the Michigan Army National Guard. Todd has held the position of ritual chairman for the active chapter and is the current risk manager.

The Trevor J. Wisniewski '91 and Bryan D. Hix '93 Scholarship (\$500) has been awarded to Drew Mason '10. Mason (EG 346), a freshman at Central, has a 3.87 GPA and is studying elementary education and music. Drew has participated with the Peer Assistance Leaders and is part of the Marching Band Drumline. Drew has held the position of chorister for his pledge class and is currently serving in the same position for the Colony.

The scholarship awarding process for the 2007-08 school year is now underway with applications due on May 18th. 📧

Mason Receives Fall 2006 Baad Scholarship

By Tom Olver '98, EGHC president

The Epsilon Gamma Housing Corporation recently awarded a \$200 academic scholarship to Drew D. Mason '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.

Mason, an elementary education in mathematics major (music minor) from Lansing, earned a 3.87 during the fall 2006 semester. "I joined Beta Theta Pi because I really liked the guys and because I wanted to get involved in something," offers Mason. "Beta looked like the right thing to get involved in." As Colony chorister, his goals for the semester include becoming a chapter (chartering) and continuing to improve Beta's image on campus. Mason plans to contribute by maintaining the proper image as well as applying himself diligently to the well-being of the Colony. As for his personal goals, Mason would like to maintain a strong GPA through graduation and be a "great contributor" to Beta Theta Pi at CMU. A piano player and percussionist, Mason enjoys backpacking, canoeing, camping and "anything involving the outdoors."

In addition to the scholarship, Mason 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. 📧



Attention Parents & Undergraduates!

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.

More than a dozen annual scholarship funds have been established by Chapter alumni through a special ongoing *Capital Fundraising Initiative*. Nearly \$3,000 — divided into \$250 and \$500 scholarships — has already been awarded since January 2006 and an additional \$3,250 is slated for distribution to undergraduate members in 2007-08.

The scholarship application process is now open. Applications can be downloaded from our web site: www.epsilongamma.org. Look for the link on the main page. Applications must be postmarked by May 18, 2007 and sent to EGHC Vice President Scott Sawyer, 700 Southampton St., Auburn Hills, MI 48326. Any questions about the process may be directed to him at: eg205@hotmail.com or (248) 451-0330.

Applications will be judged by the scholarship committee and awards will be announced at the Golf Outing on August 18th. 📧



Housing Corporation Report

By Thomas Olver '98, EGHC president

On February 3, representatives of the Colony, advising team, housing corporation and General Fraternity met at the Friends Church in Ypsilanti to discuss how to best support the Colony in the weeks and months ahead. We had good conversation about facilitating communication, planning for the Chapter's future and establishing strategies for the next phase of the Colony's development. The Colony is making solid progress and is poised for a great spring semester in Mt. Pleasant (by now you've seen the updates on the induction of eight new members and the Colony's 3.21 fall semester GPA!)

After a fine lunch (thanks to Greg and Dana Compton), we got down to addressing the business of the EGHC. It was perhaps the most widely attended meeting in some time (two undergraduate officers, two Colony advisors, two other alumni, District Chief AJ Calkins, newly-appointed Assistant District Chief Matt Armstrong, and four EGHC Board members.) Ironically, we were without a quorum as five Board members were unable to attend.

Here are a few key pieces of information:

- The Pig Roast is slated for April 21 in Mt. Pleasant
- Jon Eadie & Mike Wharton will chair this year's golf outing
- We have collected \$7,550 in scholarship money since 10/12/2005 and have awarded \$2,900 to nine recipients (12 scholarships)
- Ten leases have been signed for fall 2007; nine for spring 2008. We may have a few members of the spring pledge class interested in signing for next year.
- Board terms for Olver, Grenus and Parker expire in Summer 2007; nominations will be sought in the coming months to fill vacancies.
- *Capital Fundraising Initiative* pledges/contributions stand at \$101,200. An effort to complete the Campaign solicitation will occur over the next six months.
- The EGHC will plan to institute an annual giving campaign in 2007. Those with CFI pledges will not receive direct solicitations for the annual fund.
- An effort to secure funding for Chapter House furnishings will begin soon, as an alternative to longer-term capital fundraising efforts.
- I will meet with the Colony membership before the end of the school year to discuss Continuous Improvement Plans for the Chapter House.

The annual meeting and work weekend will be held on Saturday, August 11 in Mt. Pleasant. If you have questions or comments, please let me know. ☺



Tom Olver '98, Ken Breen '90 and Scott Nadeau '89 at the 2006 Golf Outing.

EG Housing Corporation Needs You to Be Successful!

Up to three director slots in the Epsilon Gamma Housing Corporation's board will open up this summer.

Housing Corporation board members help to provide a quality housing environment, develop and foster relationships between collegiate and alumni members, lead the fundraising efforts for Epsilon Gamma, support the Epsilon Gamma Chapter Advising Team, provide scholarships and leadership opportunities for undergraduate members and assist with the communication efforts of the chapter.

If you think you might be interested in joining the Housing Corporation board, contact any of the board members listed on this page to the left.

EGHC Officers:

President:
Tom Olver '98

Vice President:
Scott Sawyer '98

Treasurer:
Steve Grenus '88

Communications:
Scott Nadeau '89

Directors:
Charles Parker '90
John Coe '91
Bob Hempton '89
Marty Kaiser '01
Brandyn Lawson '09

Golf Outing 2007

By Mike Wharton '93 and Jon Eadie '93
18th Annual Golf Outing Co-Chairmen



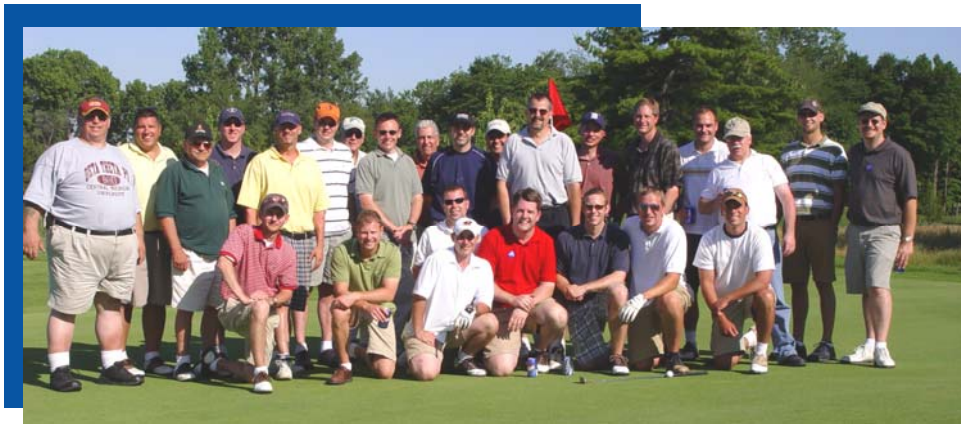
At the last Housing Corporation meeting on February 3rd, we proudly accepted the co-chairmanship of the 2007 Golf Outing.

We intend to put together an event that will have those who attend excited to attend again in 2008 and for those who do not attend regretting that decision. We plan on a 2-man scramble, dinner and a Texas Hold'em tournament. We hope to have lots of prizes including; door prizes, a skins game, 50/50, a hole-in-one prize (new car or perhaps a large cash prize) and other surprises. We encourage you to give us ideas to make the event more memorable. We are also looking for volunteers to help make this a first class event (we already have a couple, the more the merrier). In addition, we are looking for sponsors to help defray the cost to the members.

This is the only EG event that is held outside of Mount Pleasant and is an excellent opportunity to relive the good old days and enjoy a great day of golf, food, cards and brotherhood.

- **What:** 18th Annual Epsilon Gamma Golf Outing & Texas Hold'em Tournament
- **When:** August 18, 2007 12:00 p.m.
- **Where:** Brae Burn Golf Club, Plymouth, Michigan (home of the Monster, a 617 yard, double dog leg Par 5)

There will be a boxed lunch when we tee off. We'll also have the traditional golf outing fare like closest to the pin contests, longest drive, door prizes, gift bags, etc. After the 18th hole will be a steak dinner. The Texas Hold'em tournament will be open to anyone, not just participants in the golf outing.



A picture from the 18th green at the 2006 golf outing

We hope to make this an event you tell your grandchildren about...or at least worth your while for an August afternoon.

Our next step will be to open up registration on the web. Keep an eye out for an e-mail message from us, or check www.epsilongamma.org for golf outing updates. If you would like to help out in any way, or if you are interested in sponsorship or donating prizes please contact us at: golfouting07@epsilongamma.org.

Homecoming 2006 By Thomas Olver '98, EGHC president

Alumni, spouses, children and friends joined the 11 active members and seven pledges of the Epsilon Gamma Colony in Mt. Pleasant on Saturday, October 14th for CMU's Homecoming.

Betas and guests were treated to a tasty brunch prepared by Beta Sweetheart Barb Koehn, wife of Paul "Bubba" Koehn and mother to Phil Adler. Following brunch, attendees braved a chilly mid-Michigan morning to watch the Homecoming Parade march down Main Street. "It's always fun to get together with old friends, connect with the undergrads and see the improvements to the house," said Colony Counselor Greg Compton '86. Playing foosball with his two young sons, Jay Catania '99 added, "I wanted my brothers to meet my boys." The Chippewas beat the Cardinals of Ball State, 18-7 in an exciting game at Kelly/Shorts Stadium. **Homecoming this year will be on October 13, 2007.**



Jay Catania and son Joe enjoy a game of foosball



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 Sept. 2006*

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."

Joe Balinski `00 writes: Presently, I'm working for Spring Arbor University as the North Region Student Services Coordinator in the Gaylord University Center. I live in Petoskey with my wife of 3 years, Laura, who I lavaliered at formal.

Mike Latuszek `99 (EG 228) and Laura Hoppe (GDI) were married in Gaylord on October 14, 2006. They currently live in Marysville, MI where Mike works as a transportation planner for the county.

Todd DeVito `94 writes: I would like to announce my engagement to long long long time girlfriend Janet Lynn McMahon. The big event occurred on August 21st at the highest point in MI (Mt. Arvon, elevation 1979 ft). Due to the thin air from the high elevation, I slipped and twisted my ankle. While I was down on 1 knee I asked Janet if she would carry me! She just broke into tears and said yes, I will marry you! Talk about a twist of fate.

Eric Konopka `00 recently became engaged to Jessica Ringle, and has plans to get married on September 22nd, 2007. "We both currently live in the Jackson, MI area. Jess is a RN at Foote Hospital, and I work in the logistics field for JB Hunt as a Transportation General Manger in Lansing.

Brad Ervans `01 writes: I have been promoted to General Sales Manager of NextMedia's Crystal Lake cluster. I'm overseeing all revenue generating activities of WWYW, Y-103.9 FM, and WZSR, Star 105 FM. Crystal Lake is part of the "far northwest suburbs" of Chicago, and really is just about the outer limit of suburbia. I look out my office window, and I can see cows and corn fields. It's just like home! I have no idea how long I will be working here, but if anyone wants to come visit, they would be most welcome!

Tom Santilli `00 writes: Greetings to all! I just wanted to give an update on where the hell I've been recently! I sincerely miss all of you guys, I think of the "glory" days of Beta often, and sometimes try to

recreate them to no avail....In fact, we got to relive some of those old times recently at Thuss's Wedding (yah, you read that right, Thuss got married.!?!?.....) I started a Video Production/DJ Business called JD Entertainment. Because we do a lot of Wedding events on weekends, I have not been able to make a lot of brotherhood functions, but know that it hurts me that I'm no longer involved as much as I'd like. Hope to see you guys in the near future. Ciao!!!!

Erik Weatherford `00 writes: There's a new addition to the Weatherford family! Kathryn Lynn Weatherford was born January 4th, 2007. She was 4 weeks early but weighed in at 6 lbs 4 oz anyway. Kathryn and Amy (CMU, Delta Zeta '01) are doing great. In fact we're all doing great. I'm still with DHL Express and recently took over Grand Rapids and Battle Creek as the Account Rep for both areas.

Mike Stanziola `95 writes: Hello Brothers, This July 26th-29th, I will be cycling 300 miles to raise funds and awareness for the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Michigan. I will bike from Traverse City to Chelsea, for a total of 300 miles! If you are interested in the ride or for more information on Make-A-Wish, you can check out the website at www.wishmich.org.

John Coe `91 writes: Friends, Family and Acquaintances: This is a quick e-mail to let everyone know I have recently accepted a sales position at Golling Chrysler, Jeep & Dodge in West Bloomfield, MI.

Burke Daneman `04 writes: My wife Mandy (Sigma Kappa of CMU) and I are still married after a whole 9 months and going strong. We just moved down to Little Rock, Arkansas. Mandy got a job as a designer for Dillard's and I am working at the NBC Affiliate doing commercial production. We just bought our first house and oddly enough the address # is 814 - a little weird, but we hope to have as good as a time at this 814 residence as the one I lived at in Mt. P.

Jeffrey Wandzel `89 and his wife Catherine just returned from their first trip to Russia and signed the papers of intent to adopt a child. During the week in Archangelsk, Russia they were introduced and got to know their new son Adam Jeffrey Wandzel. "We hope to return in 3-4 months to complete the adoption process and bring him home. We are hoping and praying that it will be sooner than that time frame." ❄

Betas in the Military Compiled since Sept. 2006

Kenton Barber '02 writes: March 10, 2007 - Currently I am in Adhimiya, Baghdad - Iraq. All of which is public knowledge. Adhimiya is just west of Sadr City. After graduating from the Captains Career Course in July of 06 I went (back) again to Ft. Bragg and back to 2-319th Airborne Field Artillery Regiment. I did have the opportunity to make it back to Michigan for a summer wedding of a friend of mine in Petoskey - it was an amazing wedding and a really good time.

Morgan came to live with me this past year and has been doing awesome - unfortunately I had to leave and the timing couldn't have been worse - but the time together was great while it lasted. Morgan will be 9 years old this June and just earned his yellow high or 4th belt in Tae Kwan Do. He loves soccer and baseball - and he loves woman (already) I know.

Either way - I have been here since January 2nd and things are going as well as can be expected. Unfortunately we have already lost two paratroopers and may your prayers bring the rest of these kids home safely. Their sacrifices however haven't been in vain. The 82nd moved off of the huge FOBS that most of the military seem to live on and we live in Combat Out Posts - we work daily with Iraqi Police, Iraqi Army and other Iraqi Security Forces.

Central Michigan's Mularoni Promoted

February 6, 2007 - (From www.thebetathetapi.org)

Maj. Matt Mularoni, Central Michigan '95, relinquished command of the 89th Military Police Brigade Headquarters and Headquarters Company during a change of command ceremony on Dec. 20 at 9:30 a.m. at the brigade's headquarters in Baghdad, Iraq. This event came on the heels of his recent promotion from captain to major.

Mularoni served as company commander for 18 months and will stay in the brigade, assuming the role of S1 (personnel) officer in charge (OIC).

Todd Wood '08 (ROTC) writes: *November 3, 2006* - Since the Betas in the Military section has been a little bare lately, I suppose I should let the brothers know that I was promoted to Private First Class in October 2006. 🦋

EG by the Numbers



- 356 Current high roll number
- 338 Number of living/associated EG Betas
- 284 Number of mailing addresses in the "BetaBase"
- 245 Number of e-mail addresses in the "BetaBase"
- 36 Number of "Lost Brothers"
- 302 Total number of contacts in the "BetaBase"

Adam Porter-Price signs the rolls as EG 300!

Progress toward re-establishing our chapter on Central Michigan's campus had been slow and steady entering the Fall of 2006. We needed a little bit of a push.

Enter Adam Porter-Price *Connecticut '06*. Adam joined the Administrative Office staff as a leadership consultant in May of 2006. Prior to that he served as his chapter treasurer, recruitment chairman, public relations chairman, chorister and was named the University of Connecticut's *Fraternity Man of the Year*.

Porter-Price spent countless hours with CMU colony teaching recruitment skills, officer development, goal setting and pledge education. He also spent his time spearheading the (very) successful recolonization of the Kettering chapter (GMI-EMI).



Adam Porter-Price
Connecticut '06
EG 300

"We gave Adam number 300 in order to show our appreciation for his dedication and hard work." Chapter President Brandyn Lawson said. "We feel that he helped us tremendously during a critical time in our colony development, the difference between our colony now and at this time last year was in large part due to his involvement. Also, he has become a trusted friend, and it was the colony's wish that he have a place in the Epsilon Gamma roles."

Porter-Price signed the roll book by surprise during the initiation ceremony that took place on March 17. "I was shocked." Porter-Price said. "They had joked about it but I didn't think that they would actually do it. I was extremely proud, because this is a group of men who have a vision for their fraternity and haven't let anyone tell them they couldn't do it. I'm extremely happy and proud to be associated with the men of Epsilon Gamma, not only as a Beta, but as a member of the chapter."

Previous honorary initiates include Steven W. Martineau *Miami '66* (EG 100, First Chapter Counselor) and Ronald P. Helman *Miami '55* (EG 200, father of Founder Randy Helman '84.) 🦋

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Pig Roast

Saturday, April 21, 2007
Island Park, Mt. Pleasant

168th General Convention

August 2-5, 2007
Orlando, Florida

EGHC Meeting & Work Weekend

Saturday, August 11, 2007
814 S. Main, Mt. Pleasant

18th Annual Golf Outing

Saturday, August 18, 2007
Brae Burn Golf Club
Plymouth, Michigan

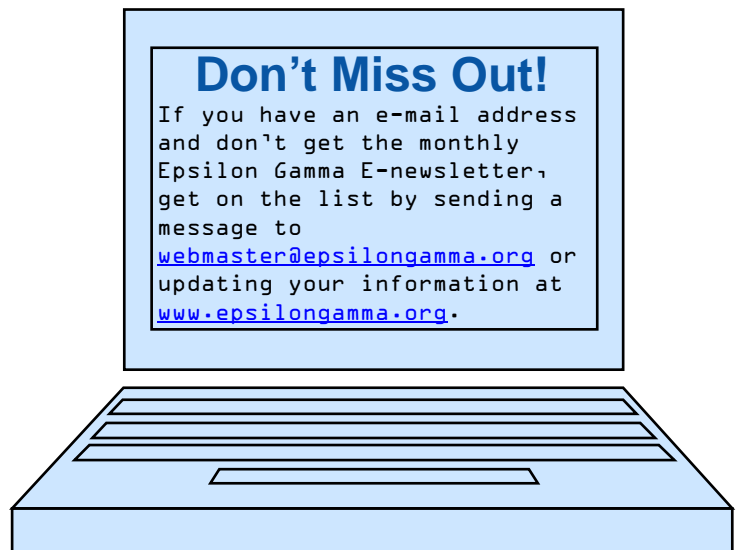
CMU Homecoming `07

Saturday, October 13, 2007
CMU vs. Army

Don't Miss Out!

If you have an e-mail address and don't get the monthly Epsilon Gamma E-newsletter, get on the list by sending a message to

webmaster@epsilongamma.org or updating your information at www.epsilongamma.org.



Inside: The Spring 2007 edition of "For The STAUNCHEST"