

The Three Point

Zeta Theta Chapter of the Sigma Chi Fraternity

Friendship

Justice

Learning



CONSUL'S CORNER

Esteemed Brothers,

Another year is drawing to a close here at Zeta Theta, and what a time it has been; I am extremely proud of where we are headed as a Chapter. Due to the declining enrollment numbers and an adjustment to new recruitment strategies, we were only able to initiate 2 new members last spring ('10). With 9 graduating seniors this upcoming spring and a current total membership of only 19, as a Chapter house, our survival was literally dependent on this past fall's recruitment. The challenge was put to the Brotherhood, and we had our backs to the wall. The Chapter responded to the challenge diligently, day-in and day-out, until we received back our last outstanding bid for a total of 19 of 23 bids extended, for over 15% of the incoming freshmen males. This was truly a remarkable feat and recognition goes out to Collin Russell for the planning of this past recruitment and the membership for the execution of his plan. After the commencement of this spring term, for 9 graduating seniors and 19 bid returnees, it will mean the start of a new chapter in their lives and their Sigma Chi experience.

I encourage each and every alumnus to stop by the House and view the renovations that are currently underway. The newly re-finished foyer staircase and re-carpeted upper

hallway look as new and absolutely amazing. Photos of recent and all renovations can be seen at:

<http://www.zetathetafundraiser.com/>

The photos truly don't do the work justice. Special thanks to Housing Corporation Vice President, Chris "Monkey" Channell, for all the time and effort he has invested in making 704 E Main St. our home.

Guard Well,

Blake Steuwe
Consul - '11



ALUMNI INVOLVEMENT

Alumni Family Day

When: May 14th at 2:00 P.M

Where: 704 E. Main Street, Flushing MI 48433

This event is a day to bring your family to the house for the afternoon. There will be many things for you and your family to do, including volleyball and other activities. We will be providing food and will also be giving you tours of the house and show off all the renovations we have been working hard on. We will not only be taking many pictures for our website but will also be taking out the old composite pictures, giving you an opportunity to relive memories and tell stories about your experiences at Sigma Chi. Please contact me at Tribune@ZTsigs.org to RSVP with number of attending by May 7th. We will also be holding an Alumni Chapter Meeting on May 8th – please arrive by 4:00pm.

-Andrew Sornig ('13)
Tribune

Tiger's Game

This spring we will be having our 3rd annual trip down to Detroit for a Tigers game. Undergraduate Brothers, pledges, alumni, as well as friends of the House are all welcome and encouraged to attend. The date for the game is going to be Friday June 10th against the Seattle Mariners. We hope to continue to have great attendance this year, as we had 72 people attend the game last spring. Come out to enjoy a great game of baseball, and stick around for the fireworks show after the game, with the Zeta Theta Brothers.

-Kirt Poff ('11)
Athletics Chairman

Please contact Kirt (Athletics_Chair@ztsigs.org) if you want to RSVP to the game or purchase tickets.

RECRUITMENT UPDATE

This fall brought extraordinary challenges to our Recruitment process. The Chapter was desperately in need of a large pledge class; many brothers had graduated in the past few terms, and the size of incoming pledge classes had been dwindling for years. Unfortunately, the challenges within our Chapter coincided with Kettering's recruitment of the smallest incoming class in the University's history. Amid rumors swirling about fraternities losing their Chapters due to poor membership, and with a total of 105 incoming men, the Chapter set out to turn everything around.

At a size disadvantage, we knew the only way we could be successful was if we worked harder than everyone else. With this in mind, a quarter of the Chapter got involved with new student orientation. From the first day of school, until the week of finals, we held events at the House nearly every night. Annual events such as Fight Night and Steaks, Sigs & Cigars were well attended, as were some of our new events, including formal informational sessions and a House project night.

The pinnacle of our Fall Recruitment was witnessed at November's Blue & Gold Dinner. Immediately following dinner, twenty-one bids were extended. Two more bids were extended in the following weeks. At midnight on the first day that bids could be accepted, eleven bids were returned. By the end of that week, fourteen had been accepted. After Thanksgiving we had seventeen bids returned – more than any other fraternity on campus. We kept pushing, and at the end of the week prior to finals, we received our last two outstanding bids,

bringing our total number of bid returnees to nineteen. Even more pleasing was the fact that we extended only twenty-three bids total- as cliché as it sounds, we are confident that we have a class of both quantity and quality.



Numbers at a Glance:

- **19** – Bids accepted (most on campus)
- **23** – Bids extended (highest number of bids extended was over 30)
- **17** – Percentage of Kettering's 2010 incoming males that returned a bid to Sigma Chi

While we certainly have much more work to do, namely, getting this large class through pledging, our recruitment success definitely has us headed in the right direction. We hope for a similar success this upcoming fall, and as always, you are invited and encouraged to come out to the House to witness it anytime.

-Collin Russell (13')
Recruitment Chairman

PLEDGING UPDATE

I am honored and proud to serve as Magister for the Zeta Theta chapter of our great Fraternity. I am excited to both learn and teach a lot this year. I have a few things that I want to modify and emphasize in our pledging program for the spring term. I feel that our pledge program is solid as it stands, though I hope to make it that much better by making small changes that will take an already great program to the next level.

I first of all want to place a greater meaning on the Big B/Little B relationship. I think that building this relationship will help create a stronger love for the brotherhood and the house in general. I am confident that this will create the love for Sigma Chi that we all were shown, and ensure a stable future for Zeta Theta.

Another aspect of pledging that I hope to improve is our interactions with the pledges' families and other significant people in their lives. We need to build good relationships with the important people in these guys' lives, so that they can understand what we are truly about and what this house can do to make their son an extraordinary man.

The thing that I want to focus on the most for the coming year is increasing bid retention. In past years, we have lost some solid guys who could have had a big impact on our house. To me that is not acceptable, and it wastes all of the hard effort we put into recruitment to get to that point. I will be working with the entire chapter, so that we make sure we keep all of these guys that we deem worthy to become brothers of our house. Building the pledge class together as soon as possible to crucial to being successful in this endeavor and that is precisely what I am aiming for. I am very proud of our chapter, and I am very excited for the opportunity to bring in a class of quality men who will uphold the values and ideals that we represent. I am excited to announce the pledging of the Zeta Theta chapter of Sigma Chi of:

♣ **Zach Bradlau**

♣ **Brett Campbell**

♣ **Andrew Disanto**

♣ **Charles Essner**

♣ **Matt Feld**

♣ **Jared Gaynier**

♣ **Cameron Germain**

♣ **Chris Graham**

♣ **Scott Holder**

♣ **T.J. Hufford**

♣ **Kyle Irk**

♣ **George Kohlman**

♣ **Dave McLenithan**

♣ **Corbett Ogletree**

♣ **Clay Roehrig**

♣ **Mike Roethemeyer**

♣ **Clint Starr**

♣ **Ian Welsh**

♣ **Alex Zimmer**

-Dan Smith ('11)
Magister

If you are interested in attending Spring Initiation, or participating in any of the pledging events for the term - Please contact the Kustos, Anthony Marchioni, at Kustos@ztsigs.org or Magister Dan Smith at Magister@ztsigs.org for more information.

PHILANTHROPY

Haunted House

This past Fall we continued tradition by hosting our 38th annual Sigma Chi Haunted House which was a huge success. The event took place over Halloween weekend, both Friday and Saturday night. We were fortunate to have many volunteers from our Kettering sororities, as well as the freshman class. The event was fun for everyone and many people said that this was the best Haunted House they had seen in many years. All said and done, it brought in a net profit of \$1,200 which will go to the Huntsman Cancer Institute; and at zero cost to the Chapter! The house was broken up into eight themed rooms which featured a chainsaw killer, circus clown room, living scarecrow, and many more. We are very proud of all the hard work our brothers put into this event and we will be looking to improve it for next year.

Derby Days

This year, like in years past, Zeta Theta will be having our annual Derby Days week to raise money to support Children's Miracle Network (CMN). CMN is a non-profit organization that raises money for hospitals that are dedicated to improving the lives of children. CMN and Sigma Chi have been working together since 1992 and have raised approximately \$500,000.

Derby Days is a campus wide event in which we host events that will unite the sororities and us with one common goal in mind; to raise money for kids in need of hope. We continue to have the staple events like Pie a Sig, Jacks Bowling Night (Friday), and Derby Day (Saturday). As a House, we have set a goal for ourselves to raise \$1,500 for CMN which we believe is well within our grasp for this year. Derby Days will be held the 4th week of April, and we invite all Brothers to come out and support this great cause both Friday (4/29/11) at Jack's Place and Saturday (4/30/11) at the Chapter House. You can direct all questions to Andrew Anderson at pr_chair@ztsigs.org.

-Andrew Anderson ('11)
Public Relations Chair

COMMUNITY SERVICE

This year Zeta Theta saw a rise in community service, as we really wanted to focus on giving back to the community and school which has given us a home for so many years. The initiative was taken to contact the Flushing Chamber of Commerce and schedule multiple events where the entire House could participate.

In one of the events, the Flushing 175th Anniversary Festival, we were deputized as the "Beard Police" and walked through downtown Flushing "arresting" and taking anyone without a beard or valid No-Beard Permit to the stockades. We were pleased to find out in our talking with the residents that Brothers from the 70's had also done this.

Candle Walk was a blast this year, and a big group of our bid returnees showed up and helped out which made filling the milk jugs a breeze. It also gave us a chance to keep building the bonds of friendship and instill a sense of community. By participating in events like the Flushing 175th anniversary, Candle Walk, the Flushing Parade, the Kettering Rotten Tomato Fight, and the Kettering Community Service Day every Brother was able to average about twelve hours of community service each! In just the past year the B-section Brothers have accumulated over 300 hours of community service, but we are always looking for additional ways to express our gratitude to our chapter, community, and school.

-Brad Gilliam('12)
Annotator

HOUSE RENOVATIONS

Throughout the last year, the House has seen the continual facelift that has been occurring for over 5 years now. During last Spring and through this Fall, the BRA and 3 Way have completed renovations. This includes all new wiring, insulation, drywall, flooring, and paint. When the BMA is completed, which is currently well underway, all of the bedrooms will have been renovated. This is a remarkable accomplishment and was made possible by the countless hours of work put in by our housing corporation and undergrads alike.

In addition to renovating the bedrooms, the lower addition hallway has been wired, insulated, and plywood is up, with completion planned for this spring. Over the winter break, the foyer steps and banister were refinished. This looks tremendous and gives guests a great impression when first entering the house. During this same time, the upper main house hallway, sneaky stairs, and crib room all received new carpet. By the end of next spring, the plan is to have Foyer retiled and complete the BMA. A link to all photos of the renovations: <http://www.zetathetafundraiser.com/>

*If you would like to be a part of the restoration process, our **Project Weekend** is scheduled for May 7th. Please contact Evan Hall (house_manager@ztsigs.org) if you plan to attend.*

ALUMNUS SPOTLIGHT

Meet our new Chapter Advisor – Scott Berriman!

What is the name of your place of business? What is your official position? What kind of responsibilities do you have there?



I am currently employed as a computer engineer for the US Army - Tank Automotive Research, Design and Engineering Center (TARDEC) in Warren, MI. My position is the customer lead for the Mine Resistant Ambush Protected (MRAP) family of vehicles. My work primarily involves assisting their leadership in developing and maintaining their project, document and vehicle configuration management strategy. Starting in July, I will be temporarily relocating to Bagram Airfield in Afghanistan for six months. While there, I will be operating as a lead engineer in support of MRAP, working to coordinate the engineering and implementation of vehicle safety and survivability enhancements.

How do you think being involved with Sigma Chi has affected the way that you operate and interact with others in the workplace?

My involvement with Sigma Chi, both as an undergrad and alumnus, has given me many of the tools that I utilize every day in the workplace. The diversity of the brotherhood's temperaments, talents and convictions helped prepare me to deal with the varied personality traits that I encounter at my job. Additionally, the leadership skills that I developed through my positions in the House provide me with the confidence and ability to handle the increased responsibility and expectations that I find at work.

What do you plan to do to contribute to the chapter as an alumnus of the Zeta Theta chapter?

When we were initiated into Sigma Chi, we made an obligation of lifelong duration. As such, I am excited to have recently been appointed as the Chapter Advisor to Zeta Theta. Through this position, I aim to provide guidance and leadership to the undergraduate brothers. My goal is to assist the Top 5 as they work to continually improve the chapter in the areas of friendship, justice and learning. Additionally, I hope to increase the level of alumni involvement in the brotherhood through greater engagement between the two groups.

What do you miss the most about living in the house and being an undergraduate?

The biggest thing that I miss about being in the House is the closeness of the ties of the brotherhood. After graduation the bonds still remain, but as brothers move away, create families and increase their outside responsibilities it becomes increasingly difficult to maintain close contact with everyone from the chapter. When everyone was living under the same roof, the friendships amongst brothers had the ability to increase daily. We lived through each other's good and bad days and grew stronger because of it. Once we move on to work-term eternal, it takes more effort to provide the support and friendship that was often taken for granted while in college. Although I try my best to stay in contact with everyone, I miss the days when I all I had to do was walk up to the four-man deck to have a drink and conversation amongst friends.

What characteristics do you think makes the Zeta Theta chapter different from other chapters?

Zeta Theta has a very long history of being a Peterson Chapter, receiving the award more than almost any other chapter. I think that this is due, in no small part, to the type of student that Kettering/GMI attracts, and the type of brother that Zeta Theta pledges. We have a highly motivated brotherhood that knows what is necessary to balance our work and play. The responsibility necessary to hold a full-time job while maintaining the dedication needed to excel at school, combine with the strong tradition at Zeta Theta to instill a strong set of core values in leadership, learning and brotherhood. These values directly translate to success at work, school and in our social lives; and is evident to anyone that sees our chapter in action.

What advice do you have to offer to both undergraduates and alumni?

My advice to undergraduates is to learn to cultivate and develop your friendships with the brotherhood while it is still relatively easy. Take every opportunity to strengthen the ties you have made so that as your lives begin to get more complicated they are easier to maintain. For alumni, I highly suggest getting involved with the brotherhood again. There are numerous opportunities to give back to the chapter, and in doing so get even more out of Sigma Chi for yourself. House Corp has been working hard for the past couple years to drastically improve the house. Come out and see the renovations, or even offer a hand on the upcoming projects. The upcoming alumni days, golf outing and project weekends are all great reasons to come back. Additionally, I am still looking for people to join my Alumni Advisory board. If you are interested in making yourself available to the undergraduate brothers as a source of guidance and knowledge, please contact me to see in what ways you can contribute. Ultimately, just stay connected in whatever way suits you best. I look forward to working with the undergrads, seeing my old friends and meeting ones I haven't met yet.



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