

# THE SIGMAN

LAMBDA CHI ALPHA ♦ SIGMA ZETA  
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN



ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN

NOVEMBER 1998

## SIGMA HOUSE CORPORATION

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George Friess '57  
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*The Sigman* is published for the members and friends of Sigma Zeta of Lambda Chi Alpha Fraternity at the University of Michigan. Address changes, news items, photographs and contributions are always welcome and should be either sent in the enclosed envelope or mailed to  
Lambda Chi Alpha  
Foundation, Inc.,  
Alumni Records Office,  
P.O. Box 2019,  
Ann Arbor, MI 48106-2019.

## NEW SUBSTANCE-FREE COLONY FOCUSES ON RUSH; SEND US YOUR RECOMMENDATIONS

By Jack Withrow '79, House Corporation

The fall of 1998 brings good news about Lambda Chi Alpha at Michigan. As we all know, many Sigma alumni generously supported the fund-raising campaign and subsequent chapter house renovation only to see the chapter deactivated and the house leased to another fraternity because of the poor behavior of the chapter.

Well, things have changed. Lambda Chi Alpha is recolonizing at Michigan. There now are 16 new members, with an objective to recruit and initiate sufficient numbers to fully occupy the house by the fall of 1999. In a practical sense, this means recruiting 30-35 young men this year. This certainly is an aggressive goal. However, we have a very enthusiastic group of new Lambda Chis and a terrific alumni adviser, B. J. Walraven. *If you know of any young men at Michigan who are unaffiliated, or who will be coming to Michigan who are right for Lambda Chi, please contact B. J. or any of the other Sigma alumni whose names are listed in this newsletter.*

Once occupied, the chapter house will operate substance-free: no alcohol, tobacco, or drugs allowed on the premises. All prospective associates are given a letter from the fraternity outlining the policy and the values we think are important for Lambda Chi. While there is a national trend toward substance-free chapter houses, we will be among the

first on the Michigan campus. Substance abuse was a significant part of the downfall of Sigma a few years ago. We strongly believe this is the right thing to do and that we are in the forefront of a positive trend.

We are excited about the return of Lambda Chi Alpha to Michigan, and appreciate your continuing support and comments.

## MEMBERS OF THE COLONY GATHER ON CAMPUS IN FRONT OF THE CUBE



For more information about and photos of the colony, visit our Web site at  
<http://www.ichange.net/~bwalrave/colony.html>

# HELP US WRAP UP THE CAMPAIGN FOR SIGMA

By George Friess '57, Sigma House Corporation President

The Campaign for Sigma, which allowed us to renovate the chapter house, was started in 1991 with a goal of achieving \$600,000 in contributions. Your Householding Corporation (presently a committee of five) has monitored this campaign for the last few years, and to date

we have received a total of \$565,000 in cash from 228 alumni. We hope to wrap up this campaign by the end of this year, and we believe we can reach the \$600,000 goal. Save us some phone calls by sending any remaining open pledges to The Campaign for Sigma, Lambda

Chi Alpha, P.O. Box 2019, Ann Arbor, MI 48106-2019.

Total renovation costs of approximately \$1,150,000 to provide the first-class facility that we have were paid for by funds from The Campaign for Sigma, the National Fraternity and a mortgage, which is now less than

\$500,000 in principal balance. Our lease with Pi Kappa Alpha pays all current operational, maintenance and financing costs. The lease ends in the summer of 1999, and we plan to have a large enough chapter by then to move back into this fine facility.

## CONTINUING THE TRADITION

By Rick Sbaschnig '99, High Rho

A number of things have changed at the University of Michigan in the past four years. A new university president and a new basketball coach were installed, and of course, the football team won a national championship; however, for us, the most notable event was the reinstatement of Lambda Chi Alpha on campus. Last February, members of Lambda Chi Alpha who work for the International Headquarters arrived on campus and began to recruit men to form the new colony.

The brothers from Eastern Michigan, Ferris State, and GMI/Kettering University conducted the first two associate member ceremonies. The brothers of Sigma colony conducted a third associate member ceremony late in the spring semester.

In April, the first associate members to be initiated in four years at Sigma were initiated by our brothers at Michigan State. The colony has reached a total of 18 men: 10 initiated members, six associate members and two alumni advisers.

The new group is certainly diverse. We have a healthy mix of engineering, business and liberal arts majors. Our ages range from 19 to 23 years, and we are all committed and ambitious. That

commitment and ambition have helped the colony to position itself well for survival. We have a complete Zeta and an active Alumni Advisory Board; our financial situation is good, and the colony has reestablished name recognition on campus.

The biggest goal for which the colony strives is to be rechartered. Rechartering requires many things from a young colony, such as active student involvement by members on campus and a high overall GPA. The biggest requirement is recruitment. The colony is focused on a goal of reaching a total of 40 members by February 1999. Toward that end, we began rush on October 4. Since the Lambda Chi house is currently being rented to Pi Kappa Alpha, we will be holding rush at the Delta Zeta sorority house. We are anticipating a good showing.

Reestablishing the fraternity has been and will be a big challenge to all the members of the colony, but we remain confident that we will be able to continue the tradition of Lambda Chi Alpha at Sigma Zeta.

If you have any questions or would like to contact the colony, the general membership can be reached via e-mail at [lbmdachi@umich.edu](mailto:lbmdachi@umich.edu), or you can contact me by phone at 734-996-8614.

## SCENES FROM THE NEW COLONY



*Members of the Ferris State chapter and the Eastern Michigan chapter conducted one of the first Associate Membership Ceremonies for the colony.*



*Member Ryan Buell starting a new tradition ... the Great Lambda Chi Rush Pumpkin.*

## RITUAL EQUIPMENT NEEDED FOR COLONY

The members of our new colony have requested help from the alumni to purchase new ritual equipment with a cost of approximately \$2,000. Funds received by the annual voluntary dues request are the only means of providing such help. This is perhaps the first time we allocated funds from the voluntary dues receipts to assist the new chapter. Please help us by making your contribution as generous as possible. Remember, your contributions are the foundation upon which our alumni communications program — and the chapter — is built.