

THE SIGMAN

LAMBDA CHI ALPHA ♦ SIGMA ZETA
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN



ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN

MARCH 2002

SERVE THE COLONY ON THE ALUMNI BOARD, WITH RUSH RECOMMENDATIONS

Alumni of Sigma Zeta,

It is my privilege to send you greetings from Ann Arbor! I serve as the High Pi, or alumni adviser, to the men of the Lambda Chi Alpha colony at the University of Michigan. While not a Sigma alumnus myself (being an alumnus of Epsilon-Omicron Zeta at the University of Tennessee), I was somewhat familiar with the significance of the chapter here due to the service of one of its best-known alumni, George Spasyk '49. My appreciation of the history of Sigma Zeta has grown as I've read previous editions of *The Sigman*.

I cannot begin to express how honored I am to work with the colony here. The men comprise an impressive group, and they are working hard to gain their charter. Their efforts have not gone unnoticed by the university, either, as the Office of Greek Life recognizes the colony as one of the outstanding fraternities on campus in terms of service to the university, the neighborhood and the community as a whole.

I would like to let you know of some opportunities available to you to serve your fellow alumni and also to assist the undergraduate brothers of the colony. First, I ask you to consider

serving as a member of the board of the Lambda Chi Alpha Foundation. The foundation coordinates communication among the Sigma alumni by publishing *The Sigman* and by organizing alumni events. The foundation also serves an important role for the house at 1601 Washtenaw. While the house is owned by Lambda Chi Alpha Properties at our International Headquarters, the foundation is entrusted with general oversight of the property.

A great debt of gratitude is owed to several Sigma brothers who have faithfully served as directors of the foundation, even when Lambda Chi Alpha was absent from campus. Now several of the men have expressed an interest in stepping aside so that other brothers may help shoulder the load for the Zeta.

Please give some thought to how you might serve in this matter. We ask for a three-year commitment. The board meets roughly six times a year, and most meetings can be held via teleconference. We would like to see two of the meetings be held in the Ann Arbor area. For more information on this opportunity, please contact me at **734-528-0859** or e-mail me at **williamsj@provide.net**.

Continued, Page 5.

REACHING OUT TO THOSE IN NEED

More details can be found in Tommy Knowlton's article on Page 2.



L-R: Nate Whetsell '04, Melissa Flavin of Alpha Gamma Delta, Tommy Knowlton '04, Tony Sassi '04, Dan Thompson '02, Steve Jonas '01, Tyler Roberts, '02, Brian Jerred '04. During February 2001, Lambda Chi Alpha Fraternity and Alpha Gamma Delta Sorority sponsored a Teeter-Totter-A-Tbon in the Diag. For 36 hours, volunteers from both organizations saw-sawed for donations toward AIDS research; over \$1,600.00 was raised.



For the North American Food Drive, the Sigma Colony collected 580 pounds of canned food. Many of the canned goods came from sororities that participated in the Sigma Colony's "Watermelon Bust," a watermelon-centered Olympics that included such events as the Seed Spitting Contest and the Greased Melon Relay.

ONE GOAL TO MEET TO ATTAIN CHARTER: 40 MEMBERS

By Tommy Knowlton '04, High Rho

Having just been elected, I thought I would introduce myself to all Sigma Zeta alumni and inform you of our current status. I am the son of Lambda Chi Alpha alumnus Andy Knowlton (Sigma 1163).

Lambda Chi Alpha is alive and well at the University of Michigan. We have a colony of 21 members and are seeking to charter this year, with an aggressive goal of recruiting 25 new members by April 2002. Although all the fraternities, including Lambda Chi Alpha, had a disappointing rush this fall, we are still very optimistic and believe we will achieve our goal. If we recruit 25 new members, we will have 40 total members by the end of the second semester, excluding graduating seniors.

Having a colony membership of 40 is the last requirement we must meet to attain our charter. If you have any sons, nephews, grandsons or friends who are currently attending the University of Michigan and who may be interested in Lambda Chi Alpha, we would love to meet them! Please contact us with names and phone numbers.

When we finally become chartered, we will be able to return to the Lambda Chi Alpha house at 1601 Washtenaw. In the interim, we are living in the Phi Gamma Delta house, located at 707 Oxford next to the Alpha Phi house. For directions, please visit our Web site at www.umich.edu/~lxa. Although we are happy in the Phi Gamma Delta house, we would like to get back to our own, and we would appreciate any assistance or support that you may be able to provide in helping us attain this goal.

We are actively involved in the Greek system. Last winter, our Teeter-Totter-a-Thon with the Alpha Gamma Delta sorority raised money for diabetes research. We teeter-tottered for 36 hours straight, raising \$1,400 in donations. In the spring, we participated in Greek Week, which was full of exciting events for the Greek system. Our team, consisting of the Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity, the Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity and the Sigma Delta Tau sorority, placed first in the variety show, second in the Greek Sing show and fourth overall for Greek Week.

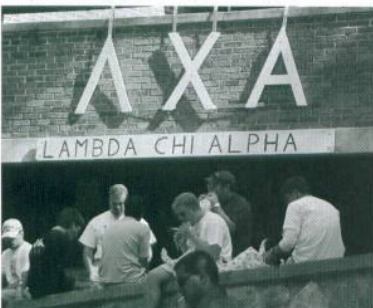
This fall, we hosted the inaugural Lambdapalooza at our house during Welcome Week, a time of great events for incoming freshmen. At this event, three popular local bands played for six hours on our front lawn, while all of the guests sat back or danced and socialized. We intend to make Lambdapalooza an annual event, occurring every fall during Welcome Week.

Recently, we also hosted our Second Annual Watermelon Bust, full of entertaining activities with watermelons. Eight sororities participated in a competition to gain the most points to win the Bust. In order to participate in the Watermelon Bust, the sororities donated 800 items of canned goods to Lambda Chi Alpha, which were used toward our work in the North American Food Drive.

We plan to stay involved and to continue to work toward our charter throughout the year. Since alumni support constitutes a major component in a successful fraternity, we are looking forward to meeting you and extend an open invitation to all of you to stop by the house any time you are visiting Ann Arbor.

Lambda Chi Alpha would not be able to function without the generous assistance of our alumni. We hope that we can count on your continued support of the fraternity as we rebuild our organization at the University of Michigan. Please get in touch with me so that we may contact you when we plan alumni functions and other programs such as tailgates.

If you have any questions about Lambda Chi Alpha's recolonization efforts at the University of Michigan or about contributions you would like to make to help us improve on our rush and philanthropic events, please feel free to contact me on my cell phone at 734-395-4429 or by e-mail at lxa.rho@umich.edu. We hope to see all of you soon!



L-R: Ryan Meder '02, Aaron Martinak '05, Brad Quinn, '01, Aaron Niemiec '01, Tommy Knowlton '04, Tyler Roberts '02, Nate Whetsell '04, foreground – Sach Master '02. The brothers eat Jimmy John's under the fraternity letters before the first annual Lambdapalooza on September 2. Lambdapalooza was a free rock festival featuring four bands, including Donkey Punch, the Foolish Heads, and Brother Mike Schmidt's very own State of Nature.

SIGMA ZETA OFFICERS

HIGH ALPHA

Aaron Martinak '03
Bloomfield Hills, MI

HIGH BETA

Steve Jonas '02
Bloomfield Hills, MI

HIGH THETA

Steve Moss '02
Coral Springs, FL

HIGH GAMMA

Christian Knudson '05
Jackson, MI

HIGH TAU

Jay Harris '04
Oak Park, MI

HIGH IOTA/HIGH KAPPA

Tony Sassi '04
Carson City, NV

HIGH DELTA

Nick Ferreira '04
Long Grove, IL

HIGH PHI

Tyler Roberts '02
Newhall, CA

HIGH SIGMA

Mike Schmidt '05
Ann Arbor, MI

HIGH EPSILON

Nate Whetsell '04
Upper St. Clair, PA

HIGH RHO

Tommy Knowlton '04
East Grand Rapids, MI

WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS

The men of Sigma Zeta were pleased to initiate the following four men during the fall of 2001:

Nick Ferreira,
Long Grove, Ill.
Mike Schmidt,
Ann Arbor, Mich.
Christian Knudson,
Jackson, Mich.
Rich Shuma,
Long Grove, Ill.

THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT ... IN 2000-2001

Thank you to these brothers, who contributed to our 2000-2001 annual giving program to support our alumni relations and communications activities, including publication of this newsletter.

Chester P. Shelly 1937	Charles W. Blackmer 1965
Walter J. Truce 1939	Thomas J. Gaffney 1968
Robert D. Richmond 1942	Michael J. Head 1969
Robert P. Young 1945	J. Scott Timmer 1977
Gary M. Hicks 1951	Robert D. Fechtner 1979
Mark C. Mc Quiggan 1954	John C. Harder 1981
Raymond F. Stokes 1956	Ian D. Thorburn 1985
J. George Friess 1957	Brian G. Muma 1986
John Robert Cross 1958	William F. Brinkerhoff 1987
Robert B. Johnson 1958	Jefferson M. Allen 1990
Charles F. Schrader 1960	Jason D. Killips 2000
Paul C. Robertson Jr. 1964	

IN 2001-2002

Thank you to these brothers, who have supported our 2001-2002 annual giving program. Your contribution makes possible the publication of our newsletter and other Lambda Chi alumni activities. If you haven't contributed this year, please send your contribution today!

Francis J. Le Mire 1956
Peter Marx 1980

Alumni News

Ronald E. Hayes '38 (270 Martin Rd., Eagle Bay, NY 13331; rbhayes@telenet.net) I am fine at 86 years.

Gary M. Hicks '51 (1503 Berkshire Dr. S.E., Grand Rapids, MI 49508; aworldoftravel@webtv.net) President of A World of Travel, a travel agency specializing in China. Every three years, I have been chairing a reunion of the classes of 1948 to 1954. The last one was in September

2000. It was my final one as chairperson. The guys presented me with a softball signed by all and an expensive softball and bat, as I play in leagues, including a 70-and-older team.

John M. Harper '52 (5 Cayuga Rd., Sea Ranch Lakes, FL 33308; john6899@aol.com) I did a residency at Duke University Medical Center during 1959-63, after service with the 2nd Marine Division. I was on the faculty



From Page 1:

SERVE THE COLONY ...

The men here at the colony seek your assistance in two additional ways. First, please forward to us the names of any young men who you know to be attending the University of Michigan. The brothers here will contact them about the privileges and rewards that come from being a Lambda Chi. The only hurdle remaining between our men and their charter is the issue of membership numbers. Your help in providing contacts could go a long way toward meeting the requirement.

Second, a number of our men are sophomores and juniors who seek opportunities to work in their chosen fields of study. We have engineering students in various disciplines, and students in business and management, psychology and sociology, art, history, political science and public policy, and economics. If you have occasion to provide summer internships to college students, please consider our men. You may contact **High Rho Tommy Knowlton** at his e-mail address, lxa.rho@umich.edu, and he will be happy to forward names and resumes to you.

Finally, if you enjoy using the Internet, let me mention a couple of Web sites for you to explore. The men of the colony have developed a very creative Web site at www.umich.edu/~lxa. There you will find biographical information on the undergraduate members, as well as photographs and announcements. Also, the International Fraternity has a very useful Web site at www.lambdachi.org, where you can find everything you want to know about the history, organization and present position of the fraternity, announcements of upcoming events, and contact information for current staff members and officers. I also encourage you to check out Digital LCA at that site, which allows you to keep in touch with your Sigma brothers online and to share current information about yourself.

Thank you for your interest, support and continued service to Sigma Zeta. Go Blue!

In ZAX,
Jeff Williams Colony Advisor (University of Tennessee), High Pi

at the Miami School of Medicine in 1963-68. I had a practice in urologic surgery in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., during 1968-2000, most recently with the Cleveland Clinic in Florida. I retired in October 2000. We love to travel in our motor home. Sally and I have been married 44 years, with four children and two grandchildren.

Peter Vestevich '53 (4721 W. Wickford, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302) Attorney and senior partner in the law firm of Vestevich, Mallender, Dubois & Daitas.

Elliott E. Burd '56 (4284 Longshore Way S., Naples, FL

34119) I'm enjoying retirement in Naples, Fla. I'm working part time at a nearby country club that provides free golf as a perk. I visit my children and grandchildren in Oregon, Indiana, and Columbus, Ohio, during the warm summer months.

J. George Friess '57 (33995 Ramble Hills Dr., Farmington Hills, MI 48331) For the record, after several years as housing corporation president, I would like to thank the following five alumni for their leadership and support of Lambda Chi Alpha for over 10 years: **Jack Withrow '79, Bill Mitchell '61, George Grove '58, Dan**

Alumni News

Girdler '82 and Jim Stebbins '60. Jack played the key role in both initiating and supporting the Campaign for Sigma that allowed us to rebuild the 1601 Washtenaw house. He has over 20 years of service on our board. The others also played key roles. Without their direction and support during some difficult times, we would no longer have a house or a chapter. We are in a transition now to find new, younger board members to replace those of us who are retired and traveling too much. Please respond if you have an interest.

Robert B. Johnson '60 (17 Glen Oaks Ave., Summit, NJ 07901; johnson@rspab.com) Director of information services at the law firm of Robinson Silverman.

Donald W. Keim '63 (773 Lakepointe St., Grosse Pointe, MI 48230; keim@millercanfield.com) Attorney with Miller Canfield Paddock and Stone.

Paul C. Robertson Jr. '64 (779 S. Bates St., Birmingham, MI 48009; probert101@aol.com) President of Robertson Brothers. I'm building a five-story, mid-rise, mixed-use residential condominium project in downtown Birmingham. It's a \$70 million project with 25,000 square feet of retail space and 57 condominium units. The project will finish by July 2002.

Mark F. Stuart '64 (2624 Graham Lake, Battle Creek, MI 49014; smestu@aol.com) I practice law in Marshall, Mich., and have done so since 1969. **Ted Winkel '66**, Irvin Rabideau ("super pledge"), **Gary Trepod '65** and I get together separately with some frequency. For about 10 years, Gary and I did Canadian river canoeing together. Winkel, Rabideau, Mike Troutman and I tailgate together for U. of Michigan football.

Charles W. Blackmer '65 (3820 Wynnstone Dr., Ann Arbor, MI 48105; chuckblackmer@aol.com) It hurts to see another fraternity in "our house" and to know the reasons why. It is also nice to know LCA is coming back! Go Blue! I drive by every day.

George A. Isaac III '75 (The Isaac Group, 1645 Indian Wood Cir., Maumee, OH 43537; george.isaac@isaacgroup.com) President and CEO of GAI Capital Ltd.

Robert D. Fechtner '79 (25 Elsinore Dr., Watchung, NJ 07060) Physician and associate professor at New Jersey Medical School.

Peter Marx '80 (49 Florence Dr., Florham Park, NJ 07932; paiof8s@aol.com) I finally changed my name from Slutsker to Marx, having played Chico and Harpo numerous times, most recently off-Broadway in "The Coconuts." For the past three years, I have been the second male lead in the Tony Award winning "Annie Get Your Gun" with Bernadette Peters, and then Reba McEntire, at the Marquis Theatre. We closed in September and I have been busy with voiceovers and reacquainting myself with being home at night. I've done several Discovery Channel documentary narrations, including the upcoming "Amazing Sea Rescues." My most recent T.V. appearances include "Law & Order: Special Victims Unit," "Star Trek: Voyager" and "Law & Order."

Brian G. Muma '86 (2929 Gough St., Apt. 5, San Francisco, CA 94123; curiousGI@hotmail.com) Director of compensation and benefits at Webvan Group.

Daniel J. Sheridan '86 (2010B W. Potomac, Chicago, IL 60622; dsherida@generalgrowth.com) Attorney, vice president and assistant general counsel at General Growth Properties Inc.

Edward W. Buchanan '88 (5249 Cochrane Ave., Oakland, CA 94618; muffned@earthlink.net) I've been a licensed architect in the San Francisco Bay area since 1993, after graduating from the University of California, Berkeley College of Environmental Design, and getting a master's degree in architecture. I've been married since 1990 to my wife, Margery, and have two boys, Ian (4) and Devon (1).

Bradford G. Peterson '88 (16 Woodstock Ave., Clarendon Hills, IL 60514; peterson6@home.com) Anesthesiologist.

Kurt J. Schneider '88 (4217 Portland Ct., West Bloomfield, MI 48323; kurt.schneider@jwt.com) Senior partner in J. Walter Thompson. I'm still celebrating the birth of my first son, Jack, born on June 11, 2000. I'm looking forward to the 12th annual Elm House reunion, which reunites Sigma brothers from around the country. This year's (2001) mayhem will unfold at **Doug Londal's '87** farm house in Connecticut and will include **Michael Hefter '87, Eric Kratochwill '87, Tim Monahan '87, Todd Binkowski '87, Pete Hogle '88, Domenic Ferrante '87, Scott Sirich '88, Doug Smith '89, Bob Mylod '88 and Frank Martilotti '87.** It is rumored that **Chip Moore '87** may actually make a cameo.

Jefferson M. Allen '90 (3056 Vinings Ferry Dr., Atlanta,

GA 30339; jmallen@mcguirewoods.com) In the past year, I have gotten married (July 2000) and joined the commercial litigation practice of McGuire Woods here in Atlanta.

Jason D. Killips '00 (15017 Ohman Rd., Hersey, MI 49639; jkillips@alumni.umich.edu) I was accepted to the University of Michigan Law School and will be attending there this fall (2001).

Since publication of our last issue, we have learned of the death of **Gilbert E. Leppelmeier '28.** Lambda Chi Alpha mourns his passing and extends condolences to his family and friends.

NEW ADDRESSES:

Robert D. Richmond '42 (225 The Donway West, Apt. 104, Toronto M3B 2V7, ONT)

Jack E. Evans '50 (227 N. Court, Howell, MI 48843)

William F. Brinkerhoff '87 (1011 Lincoln Ave., Ann Arbor, MI 48104)

Jeffrey B. Shaw '90 (7717 E. "H" Ave., Kalamazoo, MI 49004)

Timothy D. Burr '93 (347 E. 53rd, Apt. 4B, New York, NY 10022)

Bryan D. Kabot '00 (1503 Graves Rd., #801, Oxnard, CA 93030; anagerl@hotmail.com)

Farage Yusupov '00 (30594 Orchard Lake Rd., #57, Farmington Hills, MI 48334)

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.