



CRESCEENT NEWS



Epsilon-Chi Zeta of Lambda Chi Alpha • Spring 2021



The Epsilon-Chi Zeta Alumni Association Is Here... *And the Time to Get Involved Is Now!*

When we were newly initiated, energetic underclassmen, decades ago for many of us, we discussed the need for a new chapter house with better amenities. Likewise, we discussed the desire for a more active alumni group that encouraged members to remain in contact with the chapter and with one another after graduation. For decades we discussed these needs, but as we know, there is naught without labor.

As we have seen in recent years, several members have taken active roles on behalf of the alumni. We now have a new, multimillion-dollar house with plans for future renovation and expansion. We are experiencing unprecedented growth. Our chapter is changing for the better. When we were planning for new construction, a survey of alumni revealed an overwhelming demand for better alumni communication and periodic social events that would allow us to reconnect with one another. As seen through our semi-annual newsletter, the communication with alumni is improving.

The Epsilon-Chi Zeta Alumni Association has been established and our mission is...

To increase the participation and interest level among our alumni brothers by building communication links and hosting gatherings.

Over the last several months, these brothers have formulated plans and undertaken efforts to get our first Alumni Association off the ground and ensure the association's continued success for decades to come.

Although we had planned to hold more than one social event by now, the pandemic derailed those plans. A fall social event is in the planning stages and is tentatively scheduled for October 16, 2021, which is the weekend of the MSU/Alabama football game. All alumni are encouraged to save this date, as the event will be memorable. Details will be forthcoming, and you may even be called upon to help! There is also discussion of an annual spring event that is likely to coincide with Super Bulldog Weekend each year. This event may include a golf tournament, dinner, and a band.

On behalf of your Alumni Association, you are invited to become a member and rekindle the bonds of brotherhood developed during our college years.

JOIN US...the time is now!

Visit our website at lxamsstate.com/alumni for more information and a current listing of members.

Membership dues: \$100/year or \$10/month.

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Momma J's Wit and Wisdom

House Director Judith White Talks Lambda Chi, Quarantine Life, and More

In 2010, Judith White worked as the house director for a sorority at Mississippi State, and during those four years she got a good look at Greek life around the university. "The Lambda Chis stood out because of their good manners and scholastic achievements," she said. When the house director position opened up at Epsilon-Chi, Judy was thrilled to accept. "Each day I encounter fun interactions and friendliness from my guys. I can truly say it feels like a family."

Judy earned her bachelor's and master's degrees in education from Mississippi State, as well as her education specialist degree at Ole Miss. In addition to her previous Greek house experience, she comes to Lambda Chi with a strong background in management at the Columbus Chamber of Commerce,



Mississippi University for Women, Ranchland of Dallas, Texas, and more. As special projects director for the Mississippi Tourism Department, she led the statewide development of strategic marketing campaigns, organized the annual governor's conferences on tourism, and helped coordinate the Miss USA Pageant.

As the chapter navigated a pandemic this year, Judy says the biggest effect on the brotherhood has been disappointment; the safety procedures and reduced group gatherings were a difficult transition early on. "These guys were good sports about it and took advantage of the time to study more." Judy is happy to report that things have improved in recent weeks: "The living room once again has sounds of laughter, ping pong, pool, and yelling at the TV. We are doing great."

For Judy, one of the highlights of the job is her regular three-minute speeches, which the brothers have dubbed "Momma J's Wit and Wisdom." "These are motivating moments and also opportunities for real truth telling. They seem to really love it and ask for more." Best of all, she says, the brotherhood is consistently courteous and eager to please.

This challenging year has inspired Judy to focus on the current national issues through study and research, which she loves to do. She is thankful to have shared 2020's hurdles and experiences with the Epsilon-Chi Chapter. "I have had an adventurous life with constant learning and vast experiences. Now that I am a senior, I feel so blessed to have this fun, unique experience. The guys and I are building a relationship that will last forever; who could ask for more."

A Judge of Great Character

Rob Myers '86 Reflects on His Lambda Chi Alpha Experience

During his 29 years of practicing law in private practice, **Rob Myers '86** enjoyed helping many people resolve their legal problems, even when they were faced with adversity and difficult odds. Rob took on a new challenge within his legal career in 2020, as he was sworn in as a United States Magistrate Judge for the Southern District of Mississippi in August.

"Becoming a judge has been a rewarding experience," Rob said. "My viewpoint and objectives are different and my abilities to relax and enjoy life have improved greatly. I am looking forward to spending more time with my family and using our season tickets to various MSU sporting events more often."

Over the past few months, Rob has also made it a point to reconnect with many of his Lambda Chi Alpha brothers. Rob is excited about joining the newly formed Epsilon Chi Alumni Association and planning events to bring brothers back together. He's also enjoyed reflecting on what Lambda Chi Alpha means to him.

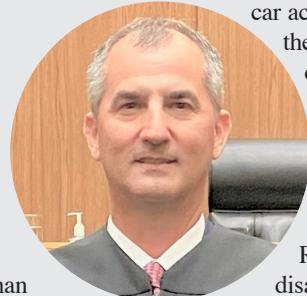
"Membership in the fraternity taught me about responsibility, leadership, and the delicate balance between work and play," Rob said.

"As an officer in the chapter, I learned to have respect and empathy for my brothers while also ensuring the well-being of the chapter."

Many of Rob's favorite Epsilon-Chi memories include the bonds built during the week leading up to initiation, swaps, Hurricane Casino weekend, Watermelon Fest, and Sunday afternoon band parties with the slip-and-slide on the front lawn. He was always impressed with how Social Chairman **Pat "Rat" Weber '85** always booked the best bands.

"Becoming a member of Lambda Chi Alpha was one of the best decisions of my life. It is so rewarding to see my fraternity brothers at sporting events and meetings and to learn about their families and life's accomplishments," Rob said. "We fondly share that our children are now at Mississippi State and are walking in our footsteps. I can't imagine my life without those friendships and memories that Lambda Chi has afforded me, both while in college and today. The brotherhood lasts a lifetime."

It has also been rewarding for Rob to see people who he has helped throughout his legal career



go on to accomplish great things. One of Rob's most memorable cases involved a 16-year-old who was rendered a quadriplegic because of a car accident. Rob felt good about getting the best possible outcome in a very difficult situation.

"It was a hotly contested, two-week jury trial case that resulted in a favorable verdict for the young man and his family," Rob said. "Notwithstanding his disabilities, the young man went on to graduate from Mississippi State and Ole Miss Law School."

Rob's greatest blessing has been witnessing the accomplishments of his own three children. The lessons he's learned as their father have had many parallels as the ones he learned from Lambda Chi Alpha.

"They constantly remind me of the delicate balance between work and play and that you only have them at home for so long before they move out into the world," Rob said. "I try to make every minute count."

You can connect with Rob at rob@robertmyerslaw.com.



Left: A team of brothers, including High Pi Greg Smith, Arkansas State, volunteered at the St. Joe's Catholic Church food drive in October.

Middle: Ryan Edwards '18 (EX1404) was interviewed in September at the Center for American Veterans about the Mission 22 Challenge to help raise awareness for suicide amongst veterans. **Right:** Anthony Abraham '19 (EX1424), Brady McCarter '20, and Dutton Day '20 were selected to serve as counselors for Mississippi State's New Maroon Camp for the upcoming academic year.

Brothers Persevere Through the Pandemic

Chapter Adapts to Maintain Our Success

It is no secret that 2020 was not an ideal period for social clubs and organizations across the country, but I could not be prouder to say that the brothers of Epsilon-Chi Zeta made every effort to foster the brotherhood we have built and (safely) retain as much of a "normal" experience as we could. Adhering to local and state guidelines within our own house took some adjustment, but our members made every effort to follow them and mitigate the spread of COVID-19 on campus. I would like to give special credit to our wonderful housemother, Ms. Judith White (better known as Momma J), for helping facilitate the drastic changes to the house and constantly being a positive presence. The undergraduate members could not be more appreciative of her and all her hard work.

Unfortunately, the execution of our annual fall philanthropy event, Watermelon Fest, had to be postponed this year, but even without our signature event we tried to emphasize philanthropic involvement however we could. With the help of our High Theta, **Ryan Edwards '18**, we had the opportunity to support the Mississippi State Center for

American Veterans in their Mission 22 push-up challenge, which helped raise awareness for suicide amongst veterans. Our High Pi, **Greg Smith, Arkansas State**, also worked hard to find us community service opportunities. This led to our involvement at St. Joe's Catholic Church, where we helped put together bags for their annual food drive. I was very proud to see our members prioritize having a positive impact on the community this semester, even with limited opportunities.

Our members also found academic success while adapting to online and hybrid class formats. As a chapter we posted a 3.22 GPA for the spring 2020 semester, and I expect similar success for this semester. Brotherhood is an area of our chapter that can't be measured with a figure or statistic, but this was another element of operation that braved the circumstances. With the hard work of our High Zeta, we implemented many initiatives that kept members engaged while staying safe. We certainly pray for better days ahead, but I have the utmost confidence in our upcoming administration and members adapting to whatever cards they're dealt.

I will have transitioned out of office by the time you read this, and I would like to sincerely thank everyone who has supported me and our High Zeta through these difficult times. I hope everyone and their families are well, and I look forward to any future interactions we may have.

Yours in ZAX,
Ben Crumby '18 (EX1383)
 Outgoing High Alpha
 bgc115@msstate.edu



Kyatt Byrd '18 (EX1400), Ben Crumby '18 (EX1383), Charlie Zimmerman '20, and Coleman Tate '20 getting ready for the first day of classes in August 2020.

A Truly Historic Member Class

Welcome to Epsilon-Chi Zeta!

Mark Burgess • Memphis, Tenn.

Jackson Cannon • Chattanooga, Tenn.

Cole Castle • Meridian, Miss.

Olman Castro • Lithia, Fla.

Dylan Chambers • Franklin, Tenn.

Wyatt Crum • Peachtree Corners, Ga.

Matt Cox • Collierville, Tenn.

Will Cozart* • Collierville, Tenn.

Rob Dunn • Tuscaloosa, Ala.

Braxton Duvall • Winchester, Va.

CJ Fisher • Mishawaka, Ind.

Jacob Fraser • Canton, Ga.

Greg Gallagher • Olive Branch, Miss.

Zack Hamby • Kennesaw, Ga.

Alex Harris • Birmingham, Ala.

Jackson Hill • Clinton, Miss.

Bramlett Kendricks • Gulfport, Miss.

Colby Leonard • Southaven, Miss.

Harrison Letson • Tallahassee, Fla.

Jacob Linley • Starkville, Miss.

Austin Lisowski • Chattanooga, Tenn.

Wade Lowery • Tuscaloosa, Ala.

Patrick Manuele • Grenada, Miss.

Harris Mason* • Meridian, Miss.

Luke McConnie • Tampa, Fla.

Carson McDaniel • Lookout Mountain, Ga.

Cole Ray • Birmingham, Ala.

Tyson Rutland • Germantown, Tenn.

Will Sartin • Southaven, Miss.

Luke Singletary • Florence, Ala.

Robby Skelton • Collierville, Tenn.

Sam Theobald • Union, Tenn.

Logan Wieler • Athens, Ga.

Alex Wilde • Memphis, Tenn.

*Legacy



CRESCEENT NEWS



The Epsilon-Chi Zeta Alumni Association Is Here...

(Continued from page 1)

Membership benefits:

- Ensure continued alumni newsletters and communications
- Fund alumni social gatherings for members
- Provided digital membership directory for members

You can also join via check written to "Epsilon-Chi Zeta Alumni Association" and mailed to Lambda Chi Alpha, P.O. Box 218307, Nashville, TN 37221.

Rather than continuing to discuss how we wish things would improve for our chapter and wondering "whatever happened to...," now is the time to seize upon the current momentum of improvement. The time is now to be part of our Alumni Association—one that we always desired when we were active members of the Epsilon Zeta of Lambda Chi Alpha Fraternity. We look forward to seeing each of you at the upcoming fall social event.

In ZAX,
The Epsilon-Chi Zeta
Alumni Association Board

Epsilon-Chi Zeta House Corporation
of Lambda Chi Alpha, Inc.
P.O. Box 218307
Nashville, TN 37221-8307

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Lambda Chi Leadership

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High Theta Richard Lake '19 (EX1422)	High Delta Jake Witterman '20 jaw1348@msstate.edu (678) 710-5685	High Iota Tyler Holland '20
High Tau CJ Fisher '21	High Delta Tyler Graham '20 tmg392@msstate.edu (985) 445-3866	High Sigma Dutton Day '20
High Gamma David Zamora '20	High Delta Garrett Wright '19 (EX1436)	High Epsilon Grant Norman '20 Robby Skelton '21 Sam Theobald '21

Link Up with Lambda Chi Online