

Spring 2016 Issue | Lambda Chi Alpha | Drexel University

# The Escutcheon

Epsilon-Kappa Zeta's Newsletter



**75th Anniversary Edition**

# TRUE BROTHERHOOD

OUR REVERED CHAPTER ADVISOR SHARES HIS THOUGHTS AND AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE



Brotherhood:

- Experienced by sharing a common interest. A benefit of fraternity always pointed out to potential new members.
- Crosses backgrounds and generations.
- Appears in many undertakings; planning chapter operations, participating in philanthropy, socializing, competing in athletics, performing community service, and celebrating together.
- Recently witnessed at Epsilon-Kappa with the 75th Anniversary Celebration. Hundreds

returned to share the experience with some going on 60 + years of brotherhood. Some rekindled and some continued throughout the years at holiday gatherings, brother's weddings, and children's weddings.

Parts of brotherhood are easy and other parts not so much. When a member is acting in a fashion that could place themselves, someone else, or the fraternity at risk, brotherhood should step forward and intervene to change the course chosen. It will take the inspiration of all our values; loyalty, duty, respect, service & stewardship, honor, integrity, and personal courage to be the one, or one of many, to prevent an unfortunate outcome. Your reward could be the opportunity to be at the 100th.

Yours in ZAX,

Mark Stitz  
EK-906  
High Pi

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The alumni volunteers are reorganizing into three groups: House Corporation, Alumni Association, and Alumni Advisory Board. Anyone interested in serving on or learning more about the Alumni Advisory Board can contact Mark Stitz at [markstitz@comcast.net](mailto:markstitz@comcast.net)

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There are currently seven High Pi vacancies at the following chapters; Alabama, Eastern Illinois, James Madison, North Carolina-Chapel Hill, North Carolina State, Pennsylvania, and Tarleton State. If you know of any qualified alumni in the areas of these chapters, please contact Mark Stitz at [markstitz@comcast.net](mailto:markstitz@comcast.net)

[ALUMNI OFFICERS]

## Housing Board:

*Chairman:*  
Steve Cohen

*Treasurer:*  
Charles Persing

*Emeritus:*  
John McGarrigle

*Directors:*  
Nik Bournelis  
Michael Elmer  
Joseph Hosey  
Ken Johnson  
Mark Stitz

## Alumni Advisory Board:

*Chairman:*  
Mark Stitz

*Members:*  
Dom DiGioia  
Michael Elmer  
Sean Flynn  
Joseph Hosey  
Matthew Mazur

**Alumni Association:**  
*Coming soon!*

# STATE OF THE CHAPTER

OUR ESTEEMED UNDERGRADUATE PRESIDENT RECOUNTS THE RECENT SUCCESSES



Brothers,

The undergraduates of Epsilon-Kappa Zeta have been focusing strongly on making better men of each other and improving themselves, and the chapter, in every aspect of what makes our fraternity great. This past term, we placed third in academics with term and cumulative GPAs of 3.24. This year, we raised \$4,000 for Feeding America and \$4,000 for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. Since the start of the school year we have initiated fifteen promising new brothers into our bond. Additionally, Drexel University

has recognized us this year for our achievements in Leadership, Brotherhood, and Academics.

We have recently shifted our focus toward improving our own educational programs. While all of our officers are very capable young men, we have found recent success in having presentations from outside facilitators and professionals. If you are a professional or have a skill that the chapter could benefit from learning, be it networking, home improvement, budgeting, or anything, please reach out to us. This is a great way to get involved! Each officer is also focusing on developing our younger members for leadership.

Looking forward, we are very excited for our next philanthropy event. Spike & Strike is a volleyball tournament that supports the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society in honor of our late Crescent Girl Andrea Messina. We hope to honor her memory by putting all of our effort into this event.

As many of you know, we recently celebrated our 75th Anniversary. I wanted to say thank you to all of our alumni who have helped to mold the chapter into what it is today. Thank you for the opportunity to lead such a fine organization. I believe that we are on our way to becoming a top chapter not only within Drexel University but also within Lambda Chi Alpha as a whole.

Yours in ZAX,

Brian Blake  
EK 1554  
High Alpha

## [UNDERGRADUATE OFFICERS]

High Alpha, President  
Brian Blake

High Beta, Internal VP  
Dan Adams

High Theta, External VP  
Andrew Garber

High Gamma, Secretary  
Chris Malpica

High Tau, Treasurer  
Gary Saporetti

High Iota, Risk Manager  
Frank Cullen

High Rho, Alumni Relations  
John Delaney

High Kappa, Fraternity Educator  
Brennan Connolly

High Delta, Recruitment Chair  
Ian Lempitsky

High Phi, Ritualist  
Andrew Villa

High Sigma, Scholastic Chair  
Anand Patel

High Epsilon, Social Chair  
Nobel Heard

Standards Chairman  
Vincent Laudicina

House Manager  
Zach Gibbins

Athletics Chairman  
Trey Harper

Technology Chairman  
Chris Forsythe

Inner Circle Steward  
Connor Fink



# SMASH BASH

benefiting  
Feeding America



On October 24, 2015, Lambda Chi Alpha EKZ held its 4th annual “Smash Bash”, benefiting Feeding America, which is the fraternity’s national philanthropic organization. Last year, the chapter was able to raise \$2800 for Feeding America.

**Together we can solve hunger**

This year the event consisted of 14 teams, which included organizations from all three of the Greek Councils: IFC, PHC, and MGC, as well as

club organizations outside of the Greek system. At the end of the day, after raising \$3,984, Brother Richard Felix donated \$16 of his hard earned paycheck to bring the total to a cool \$4,000. The

Fraternity received donations from companies such as Wahoo’s Tacos & more,

Pennoni Associates, Student Transportation of America, and Preferred Sands.

In previous years, the event had been on a smaller scale, including only competitions between the teams registered. Although there were still team competitions this year, the event was re-vamped, as people who wanted to support but could not form a team now had the opportunity to do so. There was “Pie a Chi” and pumpkin carving to generate extra revenue for the event.

In the end, the newest Sorority on campus, Delta Gamma, was crowned the winner for the day. With all the support that Lambda Chi Alpha EKZ received this year, they can only hope to make the event even more successful next year, and continue to help those who need it.

Ian Lempitsky  
Smash Bash Coordinator





This year we raised **\$4,000** for Feeding America, beating last year's total by \$1,200



# PHILANTHROPY AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

## Volunteering at the Philadelphia Veterans Community Living Center

by Connor Fink

The Philadelphia Veterans CLC provides care and a safe environment to Veterans going through rehabilitation with chronic conditions or who need comfort towards the end of their life. It is located just south of UPenn's campus. I work with Drexel's chapter of the Society of American Military Engineers as the Community Service Chair. Last year, through that organization, I started a monthly volunteering visit to the CLC.

After the program got some traction, I partnered with Drexel's Pre-PA program and Lambda Chi Alpha EKZ to get more people involved and get more exposure to our Veterans. Since fall of 2015 we have had Brothers giving back to this community and we will continue to do so moving forward. The Veterans are at this facility because they have varying levels of functionality and lucidity. When we go to volunteer with them we typically spend an hour or so playing games and having casual conversations; Not all of them can play games and some prefer to just watch or talk. We play board games, Wii, cards (black jack is a favorite), etc. From my experiences, even a slow game where they may not be winning can brighten their day a little. It is rewarding for us to see they genuinely appreciate our company, and they have started remembering some of us too!



## Delta Phi Epsilon's Deeper Dude 2016

On February 6, 2016 I participated in Delta Phi Epsilon's twelfth annual Deeper Dude in Drexel University's main auditorium. Deeper Dude is Delta Phi Epsilon's biggest national philanthropic event held once a year to support the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. Cystic Fibrosis, or CF, is a very serious genetic disease that affects your lungs. Over 30,000 children and adults are diagnosed with CF in the United States alone. Research and care, supported by the CF foundation, is making a huge difference in extending and improving the quality of life of those with CF. Unfortunately there is still no cure, so we must keep pushing to raise money and awareness to one day cure this awful disease.

Deeper Dude is an all-male beauty pageant consisting of both members of Drexel's fraternities and non-affiliated men. The pageant is broken up into three parts: swimsuit contest, talent show, and your typical pageant Q&A. All three parts are worth points with the top finishers in each section receiving the most points, thus increasing their chances of being crowned Deeper Dude. However, the majority of points come from the amount of money you raise towards the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation along with a few other pre-pageant activities. With an enormous amount of support from my brothers, family, and team of Delta Phi Epsilon sisters I was able to raise **\$3,500** for the foundation. That, along with the points I received in each of the three categories of the pageant, I was announced as the 3rd place finalist for Deeper Dude 2016.

Zach Reiziss, Deeper Dude's Mr. Lambda Chi Alpha 2016

# IFC SPORTS

Rough Touch: 2-3, lost quarterfinal  
Flag Football: 4-0, lost semifinal  
Basketball: 3-1, lost quarterfinal  
Floor Hockey: 3-0, lost quarterfinal  
Bowling: Canceled halfway through season  
Overall: 2nd place IFC Athletics Cup

It was a year of athletic achievement for Lambda Chi. After dominating the major sports of the spring and summer seasons, EKZ saw themselves sitting in first place in the overall IFC Athletics Cup standings. The fall quarter turned out to be a painful one for Lambda Chi, as a brutal rough touch football schedule saw the team go 2-3 in the regular season. Being at the top of the standings came with a target on our backs, as teams brought physicality and accusations of poor sportsmanship to Fairmount Park. After a series of injuries, the depleted squad bowed out in the quarterfinals.

Fall flag football ended up being the best flag season since the re-founding. Led by the leadership of senior quarterback Rich “Scrub” Felix and the circus catches of wideout Dom “Odell” Primerano, the team plowed through the regular season undefeated, earning a first round bye in the playoffs. The season ended in disappointing fashion as the purple green and gold were upset by Apple Pi in the semifinals.

Despite the early exits from the fall term playoffs, EKZ still held a small lead in the Athletics Cup heading into the final quarter. The winter term basketball season was a strange one, as our first three opponents all forfeited. Despite only playing one regular season game, freakishly tall center Charlie “Bruce Banner” Kaye still managed to lead the league in technical fouls. The team managed to finish the season 3-1, but lost in the playoff quarterfinals.

Winter season also saw the rise of perhaps the most surprising success story- floor hockey. With the brick wall known as Phil Ryan in goal and the technical ability of forwards Gary “Gretzky” Saporetti and Dan “No Nickname Needed” Adams, the team showed signs of a dynasty in the making. Allowing only one goal in the regular season, the team finished 3-0. EKZ suffered another



disappointing defeat in the quarterfinals, but the future is bright. The highlight of the season: handing eventual champion Pike their only loss, a 1-0 thriller.

Due to “liability concerns”, the IFC bowling was canceled halfway through the season, much to the dismay of Zach “Kingpin” Reiziss and Chris “the Dude” Malpica.

Lambda Chi Alpha EKZ concluded the 2015-2016 IFC Athletic Cup season in 2nd place, our best finish since our re-founding. EKZ is showing signs of progress, improving in the final standings from 7th in 2014 to 4th in 2015 to 2nd in 2016. An Athletics Cup Championship is not far away.

Zach Tomlinson, Athletics Chair



# Atlantic Conclave

A Personal Account by Brother Chris Forsythe

In the winter term of 2016, I attended the Atlantic conclave with Brothers Brian Blake, Frank Cullen, and Adam Lynn. The conclave was hosted by Shepard University in Shepardstown, WV. There was a series of sessions ranging from a variety of topics, and we each attended three.

The first session that I attended was a risk management session. In this, we discussed things pertaining to socials, in particular to the risks associated with allowing people into our house during socials. The second session that I went to was titled gender issues. This was designed to allow for an open discussion, and we talked about how to prevent issues like rape. We did an activity to address bystander intervention where the facilitator read off a scenario and we held up a number indicating how likely it was that we would step in. My third class was a ZAX session run by a couple of people from headquarters. This was very interesting because they pointed out several things about the ritual that I doubt I would have picked up on my own and were never gone over in our chapter's ZAX sessions.

I believe going to conclave was a very good experience for me. I feel like I came back with some new knowledge and I thought it was really cool meeting brothers from other chapters somewhat close to this area. It has me very excited to go to the General Assembly in August.



## Epsilon-Kappa Zeta Initiates its 1600th Member

On June 4, 2016 Epsilon-Kappa Zeta reached another major milestone in its 75 years of existence. The chapter performed a ritual exemplification for 3 new Brothers, bringing our brotherhood to a lifetime total of over 1600!

Pictured are the three men who went through this momentous initiation experience: Brendan Coyle EK-1599 (right), Ted Lewis EK-1600 (center), and Matt McCool EK-1601 (left).

Join us in welcoming our newest Brothers into our bond of Brotherhood!

*And now these three remain:*

*Faith, Hope, and Love,*

*But the greatest of these is Love*

## PARENTS APPRECIATION FOR DREXEL'S PARENTS WEEKEND

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This past fall the undergraduates hosted the second annual "Parents Appreciation Luncheon" during Drexel's parent weekend. Just like the previous year, the luncheon was catered by Big Mike's BBQ, who always satisfies the hungry crowd.

We see this as a perfect opportunity to show our families that we appreciate everything that our parents do for us, even though sometimes we are not the best at saying thank you. While most of our parents are only a phone call away, this truly goes a step further than just checking in once every few days.

We had a great turn out, especially from the local parents, and we even had a family come in from Connecticut! We hope that we can keep this tradition alive for years to come and that next year even more brothers will invite their loved ones to spend the afternoon with us at 3401 Powelton.

Ian Lempitsky, Vice President of External Affairs

### EKZ Alumni Re-Structuring

The EKZ Housing Corporation is re-structuring into two separate entities.

One entity will be the House Corporation, which will be responsible for 3401 Powelton Ave, including maintenance and repairs, insurance, and other issues relating directly to the physical plant. The current officers and directors will remain in place through July 1, 2017 for this entity. Questions relating to the House Corporation should be directed to Steve Cohen at [sdogone@comcast.net](mailto:sdogone@comcast.net).

The second entity will be the newly created Alumni Association. The Alumni Association will be responsible for the social aspects related to the EKZ alumni. This will include planning monthly and / or quarterly social activities, maintaining the alumni database, maintenance of a new alumni website (coming soon!), and the Escutcheon. Anyone interested in taking an ACTIVE role in the Alumni Association should contact Mike Elmer at [mike.elmer91@gmail.com](mailto:mike.elmer91@gmail.com).

## FACULTY APPRECIATION DINNER

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**Taif Choudhury**



On February 25, 2016, we held our annual Faculty Appreciation Dinner at the Chapter House. The chapter hosted over 20 faculty members from various departments here at Drexel University, as well as alumni such as Brothers John McGarrigle and Mark Stitz. Food was prepared by Brother (Taco) Lou Williams and included stuffed chicken, mac and cheese, and cornbread. Although he was unable to attend the dinner, Taif Choudhury, a lab manager in the electrical engineering department, was awarded with the Wilbur N. McMullen Faculty Member of the Year award due to his commitment to academics. Overall, the event was a huge success and we cannot wait until next year's dinner.

Kirpal Kochar, Scholastics Chairman

# ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

## James Crouthamel



James (Jamie) Crouthamel, EK 1031, attended Drexel from 1982 to 1987 and earned a BS in Mechanical Engineering. He lived at 3401 Powelton during part of his years at Drexel. He was a Product Engineer after Drexel and later attended Northwestern University to receive his MBA and wound up staying in Chicago, IL where he resides today.

He later started an Internet company, Performics Inc., in 1998 and sold the company in 2004 to Doubleclick, Inc. (which was later sold to Google). Jamie continues to work with early stage Internet businesses in Chicago and around the US today. He still stays in touch and connects with a good portion of his LXA brothers.

Jamie can be contacted at [crouthamel@gmail.com](mailto:crouthamel@gmail.com)



On Saturday, October 17, 2015, a cool and serene fall morning greeted the Brothers who set forth to drive golf carts and occasionally hit some golf balls. After fueling up on donuts and coffee, the brothers paired up to play “best ball” at Rancocas Golf Club in Willingboro, NJ. Brothers in attendance included Jonathan Andrus, Brian Auchter, Galen Breuninger, Robert Howells, Ryan Bailey, and Tom “Too Busy to Stay for a Photo” Hungerford. Prizes were awarded for longest drive (Brian Auchter) and closest to the pin (Galen Breuninger).



It was a great opportunity for brothers to interact with those from other generations as well as catch up with fellow classmates. It was a morning filled with storytelling, reminiscing about fraternity life, and finding out where life had taken everyone since graduation. The Alumni Events Committee looks forward to creating more events like this one to bring brothers from different generations together to foster the bond of brotherhood.

Jonathan Andrus, Alumni Events Coordinator

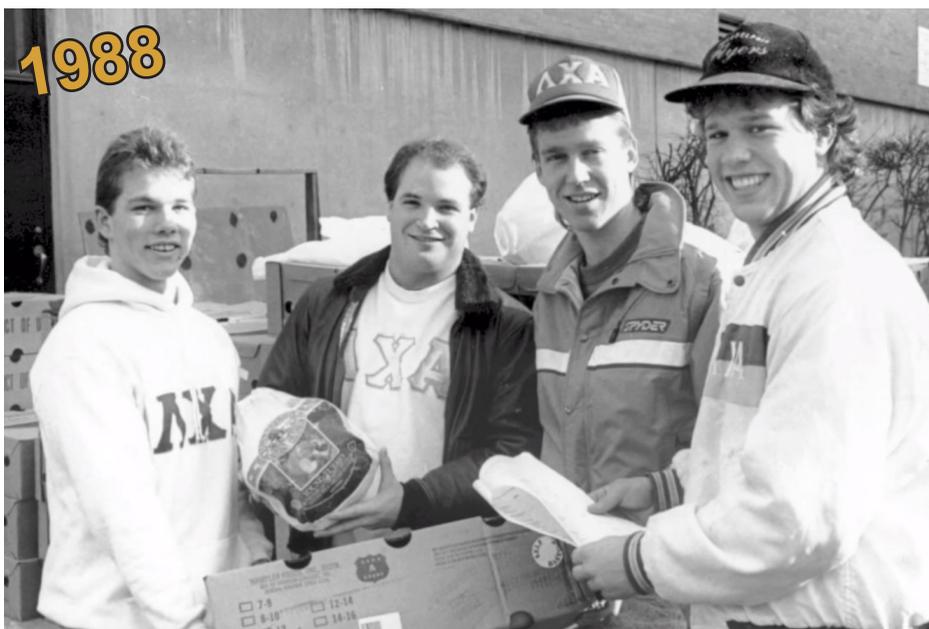


## Drexel's 42nd Annual Holiday Turkey Project

The annual turkey drive has been an unofficial Lambda Chi tradition. Lambda Chi Alpha has been one of the only organizations on campus to provide support through volunteer work time and time again.

This past year, Brothers John McGarrigle, Chuck Persing, and Brian Blake volunteered at the drive continuing the time honored tradition.

We hope to see you at next year's drive!



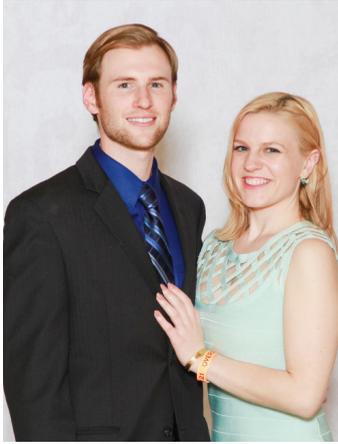
## ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT GEORGE DANKO



George Danko, EK 759, began his Drexel education in 1968 and graduated with a BSEE degree in 1973. He lived four years in the 3401 Powelton Ave. house, where he was a crew team member, social director and rush chairman. After graduation, he worked for several major corporations in numerous USA locations advancing to senior executive leadership positions where he managed multi-billion dollar, multi-national operations. In his final career move, he lead two venture capital operations that invested in early stage, high technology businesses. He credits his career success to his Drexel education and his Lambda Chi Alpha experience. He is a Drexel Close School of Entrepreneurship external board advisor and has been a guest lecturer to Drexel business school classes. After retiring in 2010, he and his wife Nancy divide their time between homes in South Florida and Scotland.

George can be contacted at [gmdanko@gmail.com](mailto:gmdanko@gmail.com) or 952-215-5024.

# 75th Anniversary Celebration



On April 9, 2016, the Epsilon-Kappa Zeta of Lambda Chi Alpha celebrated its 75th Anniversary. The festivities opened with a late-morning lunch at the Chapter House, which gave attendees the opportunity to tour the property. Next up for Brothers was a two block walk to the Church of St. Andrew & St. Monica, the site of a brief Annual Meeting followed by a Ritual Exemplification. Guests of Brothers had the option to attend a tour of the Barnes Museum. At the conclusion of the afternoon activities, all assembled at the Chapter House for an afternoon reception. The celebration then concluded at the Sheraton University City Hotel with the 75th Anniversary Banquet. The event was attended by 125 E-K's, from EK 300 Frank Bockius to EK 1587 Chris Forsythe. Also in attendance were 2 Associate Members, 4 distinguished Lambda Chi's from other Zetas, including the CEO of the international fraternity, Bill Farkas, and invited guests from Drexel University.

All and more pictures can be seen and downloaded at <https://rhondabowman.pass.us/drexel-lambda-chi-alpha>









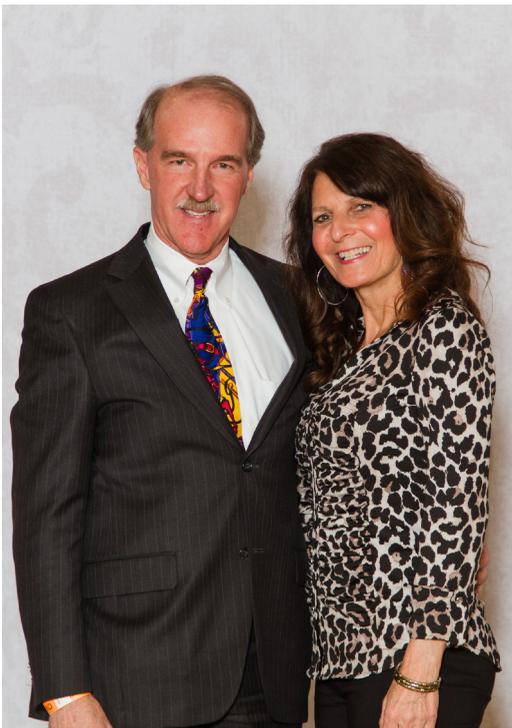
*75 years would  
not have happened  
without the  
Brothers before us.  
- Charles Persing*

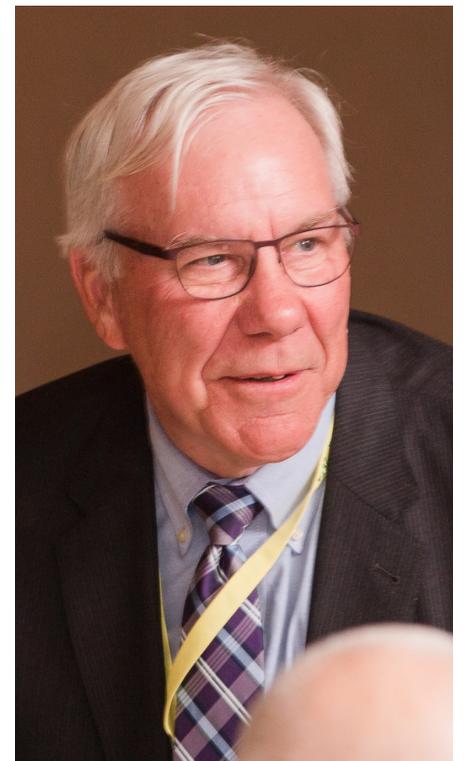






*Seventy-five years of education, development, and service; seventy-five years of brotherhood, and seventy-five years of wonderful memories.*  
- Brian Blake







## Quick Financial Update

Combined equity of the alumni association, house corporation and undergraduate chapter is \$169,000. In addition, we have accrued repair reserves of \$145,000. Our cash position is \$142,000 and cash at Drexel is \$204,000. That may seem like a lot, but we have projects on the table that will cost in excess of \$500,000 including air-conditioning, new kitchen, windows and back porch replacement. While the rent allows us to maintain and provides about \$90,000 a year, there is a gap.

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## Donation Results

I want to thank all who have contributed to the fraternity, either directly or through Drexel. Since our return in 2009, we have raised over \$168,000.

Dues	\$ 9,400
Brotherhood deposits	\$ 5,000 (from graduating seniors)
Direct donations	\$ 7,400
Donations via General Fraternity	\$ 5,900 (program terminated by General Fraternity)
Donations via Drexel	\$140,600
Total	\$168,300

This is a tribute to you and the mission of the fraternity; making the undergraduate years productive and providing a circle of “brothers” for life for all members.

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## How Much to Donate

I feel many of you don't know how much is appropriate and just don't make a contribution. No amount is too small; what you can give is appropriate. We have two levels of dues in addition to the larger donations through Drexel. We request that each brother consider one of them as follows:

Base Dues level	\$40
Anniversary Dues level	\$75, will go up each year by \$1.
Donations through Drexel	\$200 and up

If all brothers gave either amount we would fund a great portion of our annual program expense; education, events and scholarships with some excess allocated for additional repairs to the house.

We are not suggesting that you do not donate through Drexel but allocate a small portion of your annual donation to the annual dues.

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## Third Annual Dues Campaign

We are starting the third annual alumni dues campaign in July. Last year we collected \$7,600 and the year before \$1,700; this year we have budgeted \$10,000.

While not tax deductible, the dues program is a direct donation and helps two ways:



- a. Provides the fraternity flexibility in making disbursements;
- b. Sets an amount we believe that all brothers could donate annually without breaking the bank.

This year we used the dues and other reserves to fund the excess costs for the 75th Anniversary Celebration and three alumni events.

## Funds Contributed Through Drexel

Some feel if you donate to Drexel, restricted to Lambda Chi Alpha, your donation will not be counted as a donation to Drexel. We have discussed this with Drexel and your donation to the fraternity counts as if it was made to Drexel. Since we returned to campus, we manage the fraternity house under an agreement with Drexel which requires us to contract our major repairs with Drexel approved vendors. Funds contributed through Drexel:

- a. Provide you a tax deduction
- b. Gives you credit with Drexel for donation,
  - i. Drexel counts this donation as a donation made directly to Drexel.
- c. Fund educational and capital projects.

Unfortunately the annual donations have declined as follows:

FYE	Amount
6/2013	\$34,100
6/6014	\$22,400
6/2015	\$24,500
6/2016	\$17,930

If you have not donated lately we would much appreciate your participation!

Thanks in advance.

IN ZAX,  
 Chuck Persing  
 Treasurer Housing Corporation  
 Treasurer Alumni Association

**Help us find Brothers we lost contact with. Please send us their email or mailing address.**

Full Name	EK #	Full Name	EK #	Full Name	EK #	Full Name	EK #
John Drumheller	105	Eugene John Brown	370	Michael Badders	518	L. R. Fidler	701
Joseph Murray	279	James Thomas Young	382	Robert Smith	533	Paul Walker	886
Michael Campbell	301	Edek Garbolewski	395	John Morris	552	David Podolsky	892
William F. Foran	304	John B. Mullins	420	James Robson	561	James Cabo	937
Gilbert Alan Scott	305	Thomas Henry Gryzewski	457	Brian Elmo Curry	585	Christopher Swan	1211
Dr. Joseph F. Dienst	332	Gordon J. Kibbee	460	Albert Gaydos	608	Michael Patrick O'Donnell	1338
Karl N. Schauer	357	David MacDonald	461	Robert Barrett	678	Shane Malia	1448
William Steele	362	William Prescott	465	Edward Brucia	689		



Epsilon-Kappa Zeta

# The Escutcheon



Lambda Chi Alpha Fraternity  
Drexel University

3401 Powelton Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19104

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**Save the dates!**

**Alumni-Undergrad Softball and BBQ on July 23, 2016**

**Annual Alumni Meeting on May 6, 2017**