

# Post Summer 2023 Alumni Relations Update

Greetings Brothers,

We hope this update finds you and your family in good health and high spirits. In our second quarterly update, we would like to bring you up to date on the status of Epsilon-Kappa Zeta at Drexel.

#### **Alumni Update:**

During the summer term, we made needed repairs and improvements to the Chapter House, including:

 KITCHEN RENOVATION COMPLETE! Completed a total renovation of the kitchen and adjacent storage area, including new porcelain tile flooring, LED ceiling lights and accompanying motion sensors, base and wall storage cabinets with granite countertops, new stainless 3-bowl sink and island prep table, new ranges, vent hoods, refrigeration equipment, fin-tube heating, and small appliances.









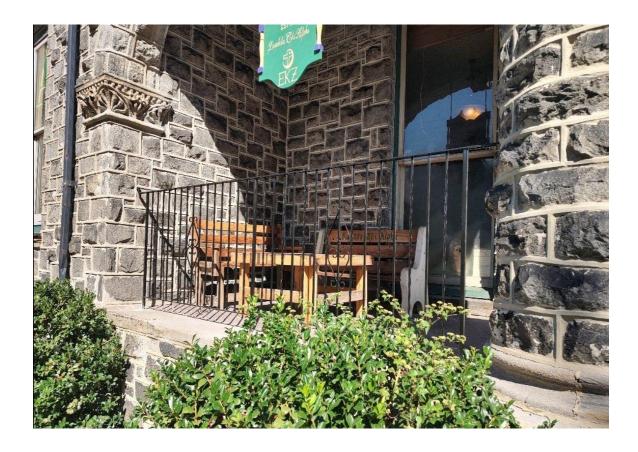


 Completed a renovation of the back hallway, including new vinyl plank flooring, acoustic ceiling tile and fin-tube heating.



Fabricated and installed additional iron railings on the back stairwell leading to the basement and on the front porch of the Chapter House. These installations were required by a recently completed Risk Assessment by James Favor and Company as noted in their report to both EKZ and the Lambda Chi Alpha International Fraternity. These safeguards will ensure that the liability insurance premiums assessed to the undergraduate chapter are not increased for the 2023-2024 academic year.





- Purchased 4 new tables and 30 chairs for the dining room.
- The cost to the House Corporation for the above repairs and improvements, including the stabilization of the back hallway floor and Drexel-required planning and design study for the kitchen project was approximately \$213,000.

## **Upcoming House Corporation Events:**

- Nov 08, 7:00 PM: House Corporation meeting
- Nov 19, 1:00 4:00 PM: Kitchen Grand Opening and Open House

Mark your calendar, and please RSVP to <a href="mailto:ekzalumniassociation@gmail.com">ekzalumniassociation@gmail.com</a> and/or on the Alumni Facebook event page!

- Dec 11, 7:00 PM: House Corporation meeting
- May 18, 2024 (tentative): Annual Alumni Meeting

#### **Upcoming Alumni Association Events:**

 Jan 27, 2024 (Saturday), 2:00 PM: Drexel Men's Basketball vs. North Carolina A&T in the Hazem Maragah Suite. Additional information will be available soon.

#### **Active Chapter Update:**

The Active Chapter currently stands at 48 Brothers at the end of Summer Term. These individuals have shown exceptional qualities that align with the EKZ values of leadership, scholarship, and community service.

Looking ahead, the undergraduates are excited to continue their commitment to philanthropy, brotherhood, and academic excellence. There are five exciting events and initiatives planned for fall term, including volunteering opportunities, a Halloween pumpkin carving fundraiser and a Brotherhood 3v3 basketball tournament in October, as well as a 76ers game in November. They will also be raising in excess of \$7,000 for Movember (cancer and mental health awareness for men). Interested Alumni can assist in this effort by making a cash pledge or donating food for events or raffle items. Reach out to Henry at (215) 470-7470 or <a href="mailto:arv53@drexel.edu">arv53@drexel.edu</a> for more information.

We continue to be grateful for the support of our alumni and the entire Drexel community. We would again like to extend an invitation to all our alumni to get involved and reconnect with our Chapter.

#### Alumni Spotlight: Jim Pezzillo

#### by Rob McCafferty

Jim Pezzillo (EK 1023) recently completed a 7-day, 500-mile charity bike ride to benefit Anchor House Foundation. Jim and his wife Sandy are in their 6th year of madness in the annual ride. He claims that the motivation is 100% based on supporting a worthy charity but make no mistake; the progress photos often include hydration. "This is a charity we firmly believe in that really helps on a local level. Imagine a fear so real a child would rather be on the streets than at home." Those are the people Anchor House helps.

The mission of Anchor House is to provide a safe haven where abused, runaway, homeless, aging out and at-risk youth and their families are empowered to

succeed and thrive. Anchor House Shelter was founded in 1978 to move homeless and runaway youth off the streets of Trenton and reunite them with their family. Today, Anchor House provides shelter, school outreach, transitional and supportive housing, and street outreach to youth, ages 12 to 21 years, from Mercer County and throughout the state of New Jersey.

Please consider contributing to this worthwhile effort when Jim and Sandy embark on the ride in 2024.

Well done Pezz and Sandy!





## What's with the Third Degree?

### by Theo Speedy

Each of us has taken a different path in life. As undergraduates, we all came from different schools and different towns. At Drexel, we had different majors, played different sports and had different interests. After college, we took different jobs and

moved to different places. Although we are all different, there is one thing we share; we all went through the same initiation ritual.

Every Brother of Epsilon-Kappa Zeta has participated in our ritual. Getting initiated turns an Associate Member into a Brother; it is what bonds us together and gives our fraternity membership its meaning. Without our ritual, we would just be another social club.

And this is where I give you the third degree...when was the last time YOU thought about ritual? This was not something intended to be forgotten. Do you remember? Let me refresh your memory if the details are hazy regarding one important aspect of our ritual. There is a final oath you took, which was a pledge to fulfill obligations to the Fraternity, and to each other as Brothers, long after our college days are past. This is a life-long oath.

As a Lambda Chi, you never say that you were "in a Fraternity"... you say "my fraternity is Lambda Chi." Furthermore, you don't say "I was a Lambda Chi"...you **ARE** a Lambda Chi. This life-long membership and participation is what makes the fraternity experience so rich.

The oath to support may not be one that Alumni Brothers act on every day, but I would like to remind you of your obligation. A big part of the oath is contributing monetary donations to the Chapter and the House Corporation to support our local operations. You can also donate to the National Fraternity in many different ways. While money is important, it is not the only way that you can contribute. You can participate on our local board as a director or attend the annual meeting. And living up to the oath you took so many years ago can be simpler than that. Fraternity is about Brotherhood. When was the last time you called a Brother you hadn't seen in years, just to say hello and ask how they were doing? The connections we made with each other while undergrads can have that lasting connection long after we have left Drexel. Simply reaching out to those who we haven't seen can make a big impact on them and on you. Rekindling the spirit of brotherly love and affection we all should have for one another is what Brotherhood, and Lambda Chi, is all about.

### Preview of the Fall Update coming in January 2024:

As of the start of fall term in late September, we have added 22 new Associate Members! Initiation is scheduled for December 9th.

#### **Stay Connected:**

Follow, join and share the Alumni Facebook and Instagram pages (alumni social media link icons below).

Follow the Undergraduate Chapter on Instagram @lambdachidrexel

Yours in ZAX.

The EKZ House Corporation and Alumni Association

Henry Gavazzi, High Rho, EKZ Undergraduate Chapter













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