

Drexel  University
LAMBDA CHI ALPHA
Epsilon Kappa Zeta Alumni

Spring 2023 Alumni Relations Update

Greetings Brothers,

We hope this update finds you and your family in good health and high spirits. Now that we have substantially emerged from the COVID pandemic, we would like to bring you up to date on the status of Epsilon-Kappa Zeta at Drexel.

The Annual Meetings for both the House Corporation and Alumni Association were held at the Chapter House on May 5, 2023. Elections for officers and directors were held, and the following Brothers will serve through June 30, 2024:

House Corporation:

Ken Johnsen, EK 682 – Director
Steve Cohen, EK 898 – Chairman
Chuck Persing, EK 903 – Treasurer
Dennis Carr, EK 1017 – Director
Rob McCafferty, EK 1053 – Director
Nik Bournelis, EK 1473 – Director
Theo Speedy, EK 1493 – Director
Mike Elmer, EK 1515 – Secretary

Alumni Association:

Andy Soltis, EK 960 – Secretary
Mike Elmer, EK 1515 – President
Joe Hosey, EK 1524 – Treasurer

Alumni Update:

The House Corporation has three main goals for 2023-2024: The first initiative is increased communications with both our Alumni and Undergraduate Brothers. We hope to accomplish this through our Facebook page (ΛΧΑ EKZ Alumni) as well as e-mail blasts. We will also update our website. Through these methods, we will begin posting and distributing frequent updates on House Corporation initiatives, Alumni Association events and the status of the Active Chapter. The second initiative is tied to the first, and that is to evaluate, establish and maintain a strong social media presence. Finally, we will re-establish our Annual Giving program,

which will enable the maintenance and improvement of the Chapter House. The Alumni Association will focus their attention on planning and hosting social events.

Over the past 2 years, we have made several much-needed repairs and improvements to the Chapter House, including:

- Replaced both hot water heaters
- Repaired roofing surfaces, including flat roofs, as well as shingle and slate areas
- Replaced the fire escape to meet city of Philadelphia code (pictured below left)
- Replaced 4 windows and repaired wood trim on 6 others
- Painted wood trim below the roof line on the entire perimeter of the Chapter House
- Fabricated and installed iron railings on several stairways and other high-risk locations (pictured below right and background of below left)
- Removed asbestos tile and strengthened flooring in the back hallway (in preparation for the kitchen renovation)



Current projects:

- Complete renovation of the kitchen and adjacent storage area
- Install new flooring, acoustic ceiling tile and fin-tube heating in the back hallway
- Fabricate and install iron railings in the back stairwell (to the basement) and on the front porch

Finally, we are saddened by the passing of Frank Bockius, EK 300. Brother Bockius was awarded the Order of Merit, the highest honor bestowed by our National Fraternity, in 1978. He was instrumental in the acquisition of the Chapter House at 3401 Powelton. As many of you know, there is an award presented by the Alumni to an Undergraduate Brother who 'goes above and beyond; and for Dedication to the Ideals of Lambda Chi Alpha.' Nominees are reviewed annually, but the award is only presented if the nominee demonstrates the characters noted above.

Active Chapter Update:

The Active Chapter initiated 10 men during spring term. These individuals have shown exceptional qualities that align with the EKZ values of leadership, scholarship, and community service. We are confident that they will make a positive impact on our Chapter and continue the legacy of Epsilon-Kappa Zeta at Drexel University. With the addition of these 10 men, the Active Brotherhood will number 67 after graduation in June.



The Active Brothers have also been busy making a positive impact on our community through various philanthropic efforts. During winter term, Brothers partnered with Phi Sigma Sigma sorority and raised a total of \$1,200 for Philly PAWS, a local animal rescue organization. The funds were raised through various creative initiatives, and we are thrilled to support the incredible work that Philly PAWS does in rescuing and rehabilitating animals in need. In addition to our

fundraising efforts, we also organized a successful bake sale which raised \$350 for the Fraternity. Our Brothers put their culinary skills to work and baked an array of delicious treats that were enjoyed by the entire Drexel community.

While giving back to the community remains a top priority for our Chapter, we also made sure to enjoy some fun and memorable social events during winter term. One of the highlights was attending a basketball game as the Philadelphia 76ers took on the Oklahoma City Thunder.



There was also a strong undergraduate turnout at the Alumni Association sponsored Drexel basketball game in February as the Dragons took on the Towson Tigers at the DAC.

Looking ahead, the undergraduates are excited to continue their commitment to philanthropy, brotherhood, and academic excellence. There are several exciting events and initiatives planned for spring term, including volunteering opportunities, networking events and professional development workshops to help our Brothers thrive academically, professionally and personally.

With much gratitude, the Active Brotherhood thanks Mark Stitz, our High Pi, for his continued support, as well as Nick Shurley, our High Alpha, who has shown great integrity over the past two quarters. We are also grateful for the support of our alumni and the entire Drexel community. We would like to extend an invitation to all our alumni to get involved and reconnect with our Chapter. We look forward to the beginning of summer term as we plan for fall rush with enthusiasm and determination.

Yours in ZAX,

The EKZ House Corporation and Alumni Association
Mason Handwerger, High Rho, EKZ Undergraduate Chapter



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