

The Epsilonian

A PUBLICATION OF ALPHA EPSILON OF CHI PSI

SPRING 2024



LODGE RENOVATIONS TO CONTINUE IN SUMMER 2024

NEW LOWER FLOOR RENDERINGS

These beautiful new renderings from Br. Dwight Herdrich E'82 showcase the vision for our improved lower floor, including a fully restored Tap Room with our original Pretzel Bell Bar, a more accessible staircase, and a brand new study/collaboration area for our Actives and their guests. These are in addition to the Founders' Room, images of which can be viewed on our website.

Our plan is for renovations to continue in Summer 2024 with the goal of using the spaces to host part of our Homecoming events in Fall 2024. Thanks to those Brothers who made these improvements possible by contributing to our Capital Campaign.



Chi Psi News

- Sneak Peek: Lodge Reno
- Meet the Spring 2024 Pledges

LETTER FROM THE #1

BY IAN CAMPBELL E'24, #1

As the snow melts and the days grow longer, a renewed sense of optimism blankets the campus of the University of Michigan, and within the walls of Alpha Epsilon of Chi Psi, things are going exceedingly well. The change of seasons has always signaled a time of fresh beginnings, and this spring is particularly momentous for us. Our Brotherhood has been strengthened by the addition of a group of outstanding young men who have begun their journey to become Brothers of this Fraternity. Their energy, enthusiasm, and dedication have already started to make a positive impact on our Fraternity. As we continue to navigate the semester with the guiding principles of Chi Psi, we are reminded of the support that makes our endeavors possible. Your continued encouragement and involvement are invaluable to us, and we are deeply grateful. We look forward to seeing many of you in the near future and keeping you informed of our progress throughout the coming months.

PHILANTHROPY REPORT

By Aidan Szuch E'25, Philanthropy Chair

After a successful inaugural run last fall, the Brothers of Alpha Epsilon decided to run back the Haunted Lodge philanthropy fundraiser, with a long-term vision of establishing it as an annual tradition. This year, our group chose to raise money for House by the Side of the Road, a local nonprofit located about a mile down State St. from the Lodge that provides free clothes, toys, and home goods to people in need in the surrounding community.

One of the coolest parts of this event was fixing some of the mistakes we made last year. We redesigned the path through the Lodge to include a larger portion of the second floor and basement, adapted scenes to ensure patrons continued along the desired route, and converted the schedule from one long day to two shorter ones to try and encourage more passersby to come inside. And, because we had many leftover decorations, much more of our budget could be invested into the story and the rooms, giving us a better profit margin from the start.

In total, we raised nearly \$1,300 dollars in two nights, which we consider a successful uptick from last year. For many Brothers, the event was one of the highlights of the fall semester, and we are proud



to host a fun event that benefits our local community. We're already looking forward to next October!

BROTHERHOOD UPDATE

By Timmy Devine E'25, Brotherhood Chair

The winter semester tends to be a busy semester for many Brothers at the Lodge. Many Brothers face increasing coursework coupled with job, internship, and graduate program applications. At the Lodge, we find it essential to foster an environment where Brothers can take a break from the stresses of the school year and understand that fun internal events effectively create the much-needed recess.

In keeping with tradition, we gather each Thursday evening in formal attire to celebrate the end of the week with one another. We continue to welcome any alumni who wish to join us on Thursdays. We also have pool and poker nights each Sunday evening to decompress before the busy week.

The Fraternity also considers participating in activities outside the Lodge doors essential. Brothers join together and venture on trips to various restaurants, and Brothers of age participate in bar crawls. Furthermore, the Fraternity plans to go go-karting and bowling in the coming weeks. Events like these keep morale high in the Lodge and are thus a priority for our group. It has been great to see younger Brothers take the initiative in planning these events, which has generated excitement from the whole Brotherhood.

RECRUITMENT

INTRODUCING THE SPRING 2024 PLEDGES

By Miles Anderson E'26, Recruitment Chair

This winter semester has been one of Alpha Epsilon's most successful recruitment cycles since the re-founding! Thanks to the help of **Br. Alex Wise** and newly initiated Epsilonian **Br. Mason Brown E'27**, Alpha Epsilon has 6 pledges for the Winter 2024 class. Earlier in the semester, the Brothers of Alpha Epsilon held multiple "Open Lodge" events to bring potential new members around. Once we found some gentlemen who shared our Brotherhood's values, we began to host events. Together we watched the Lions' playoff run, went to Pinball Pete's for a night on the town, and visited some of Ann Arbor's finest establishments. We are excited for the future and what it holds for the Winter 2024 Pledge Class!



NOAH ANDREW PEREZ

Year: Freshman

Hometown: Westfield, NJ

Major(s): Mathematics of Finance and Risk Management

Involvement/Interests: Michigan Finance and Math Society, Association of Latino Professionals For America, weight lifting, pole vaulting, cooking, and baking.

"From the moment I visited the Lodge for the first time, I felt a special connection with the Brothers. From that moment, I knew that I wanted to be a part of Alpha Epsilon and carry on the traditions and values of the Fraternity."

INTRODUCING THE SPRING 2024 PLEDGES

CONTINUED



RYAN SAMUEL PINSKER

Year: Freshman

Hometown: Los Angeles, CA

Major(s): Data Science

Involvement/Interests: Governance & Operations Team - Blockchain at Michigan, Michigan Club Swimming, Michigan Jewish Resource Center, WolySec

“Ever since I set foot in the Lodge, I felt at home. I’ve always wanted to join a Fraternity of Brothers, and after meeting the Brothers of Chi Psi and learning about the Fraternity’s values, I knew this was the place for me.”



JOSHUA DEREK GURA

Year: Freshman

Hometown: Woodcliff Lake, NJ

Major(s): Sport Management

Involvement/Interests: Michigan Sport Business Association, sports, fitness, and music

“The early experiences I had at the Lodge made me feel like I was at home. Coming into college, I hoped to meet other like-minded people interested in forming strong bonds as friends and Brothers. I believe I have truly found that in the Brothers of Chi Psi, and I am excited to become a part of this community.”



JAMES HERBERT BARNES

Year: Freshman

Hometown: New York, NY

Major(s): Political Science

Involvement/Interests: baseball, fitness, guitar, watching sports, Zach Bryan

“Chi Psi provides a unique opportunity to join a Brotherhood of gentlemen which offers the chance to develop and refine myself. It’s an opportunity to join a Brotherhood that extends beyond the school and through the rest of my life.”



BLAKE SHEA LEVINE

Year: Freshman

Hometown: New York, NY

Major(s): Undeclared, interested in Economics and Statistics

Involvement/Interests: eating and playing/watching basketball, baseball, and football.

“Chi Psi offers a closely knit community that allows for true Brotherhood to develop. I look forward to being a part of the Chi Psi Brotherhood.”



LUKE CHRISTIAN MERCADO

Year: Freshman

Hometown: Edina, MN

Major(s): Mechanical Engineering

Involvement/Interests: mountain biking, ski instructor, watch collecting, playing/watching sports, trying new foods.

“Chi Psi made me feel included and like I belong here ever since I was here. I like having a close-knit community of Brothers so I can be close with everyone.”



SAVE THE DATE! HOMECOMING & REUNION SEPT. 13-14, 2024

ANNUAL REUNION DINNER | FRI, SEPT. 13 | THE LODGE

Alpha Epsilon alumni and guests are invited to attend the annual cocktail reception and formal dinner at the Lodge.

FOOTBALL SATURDAY | SAT, SEPT. 14 | THE LODGE

The Fall 2024 Homecoming game is scheduled for Saturday, September 14 against Arkansas State. Epsilon will host traditional Football Saturday festivities at the Lodge on Saturday.

NOTE: There will be NO hotel block reserved for Epsilon alumni. Please organize your accommodations now if you plan to attend. If enough Brothers book accommodations near the Holiday Inn or Hyatt Place, we may arrange a shuttle bus to the Lodge for Friday evening.

Event registration details will be sent via email closer to the date of the event.

VOLUNTEERS

THE EPSILON TRUSTEE CORPORATION

- Brian T. Heil E'80, #1
- David M. Di Rita E'86, #2
- David L. Decker E'86, #3
- Brad R. Plymale E'90, #4
- Richard R. Burns E'68, Trustee
- Dwight M. Herdrich E'85, Trustee
- Dennis G. Miriani E'87, Trustee
- Aaron J. Tavalire E'07, Trustee

THE EPSILON EDUCATIONAL ENDOWMENT

- Chris A. Laus E'81, #1
- Andrew N. McQuarrie E'06, #3
- Steven A. Starnes E'01, #4
- Nicolas Wetzler E'00, Trustee
- Marek C. Lockhart E'85, Trustee
- James R. Van Dyke E'01, Trustee



JAN. 2024 INITIATION BANQUET PHOTOS



For more pictures from the event, visit:
alphaepsilonofchipsi.com/gallery/initiation-banquet-january-2024-at-the-david-whitney

On January 25, 2024, Epsilonians and alumni gathered at The David Whitney in Detroit to celebrate our newly initiated Brothers.

