

UPCOMING EVENT

Come Home to Celebrate at ZBT

2017 Homecoming Details

Saturday, October 21

Since the game time is not yet announced, we will use the following schedule for different game time options:

Noon Game

- Catered full brunch at the house between the Wreck Parade and kick-off

Afternoon Game (3:30 p.m.)

- Continental breakfast at the house after the Wreck Parade
- Full catered luncheon starting at noon with tailgate before kick-off

Night Game (7 p.m.)

- Continental breakfast at the house after the Wreck Parade
- Cookout at the house and tailgate starting at noon
- Full catered tailgate dinner starting around 4 p.m.

Find full details at

www.gtzbt.org

See you in a few weeks!

Thank You!

A special thanks to the following 2016-17 donors whose gifts came in after our late-August appeal letter was published, therefore their names were not included on the Honor Roll in the mailing you recently received.

Lawrence Henschel '69

Lester Zinger '73

Robert Josephs '82

Our 2017-18 giving year began September 1. Visit www.gtzbt.org or call 800-975-6699 to kick off the new giving year!

www.gtzbt.org



ΦΕΠ • 1916

Xi-Lights



ZBT • 1970

Xi Chapter of Zeta Beta Tau Fraternity

October 2017

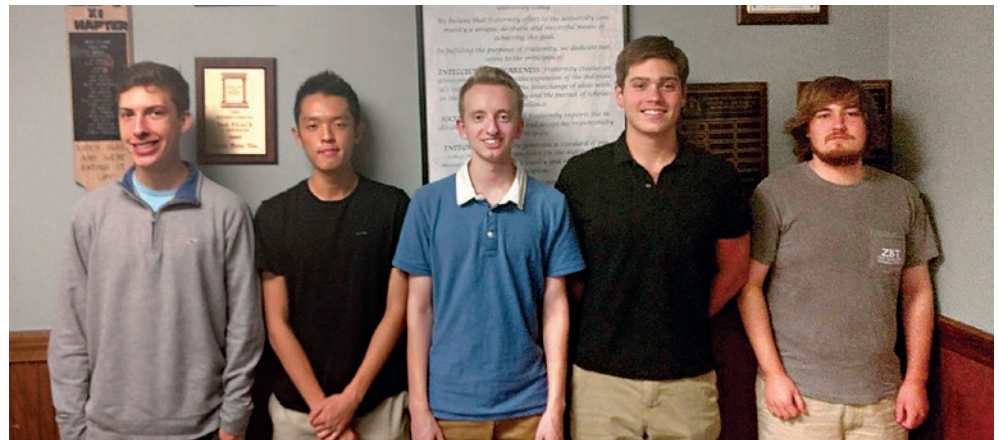
Georgia Tech • Atlanta, Ga.

CHAPTER REPORT

Honoring Our Fraternity's Foundation

Brothers Pay Homage to ZBT's Values and Morals

By Doug Bodner '87



The spring 2017 new brother class.

Amid a national fraternity system that often is portrayed in a negative spotlight, Xi Chapter brothers continue to honor the longstanding legacy of our great fraternity, exemplifying ZBT's core values and morals. Here's how they're commemorating our fraternity's foundation:

Intellectual Awareness: Brothers are working on a new tutoring system for members with academic struggles, and for new freshmen.

Social Responsibility: Brothers hold one another accountable through minimum standards in many areas—academics, service and philanthropy, and participation, among others.

Integrity: ZBT reinforces each brother's commitment to, and honesty with one another through many means, including standards and review processes.

Brotherly Love: Each week, the brotherhood provides an opportunity for members to thank other brothers who have provided assistance to them.

In addition, ZBT continues to stand apart from other Tech fraternities due to our commitment to eliminating hazing from the fraternity experience. Unlike many other

campus Greek organizations, ZBT does not require a pledge period and grants new members full standing immediately upon invitation acceptance and initiation. The chapter also conducts frequent brotherhood reviews to enforce minimum standards regarding academic performance, philanthropic activities, and participation in on-campus activities and organizations, to name a few.

Xi Chapter invites alumni from both ZBT and Phi Epsilon Pi to remain connected with our newest generation of brothers. We hope to see you at the house this fall!

Fall 2017 New Members

Justin McNair,
Aerospace Engineering, Wrens, GA

Daniel Bae,
Aerospace Engineering, Dacula, GA

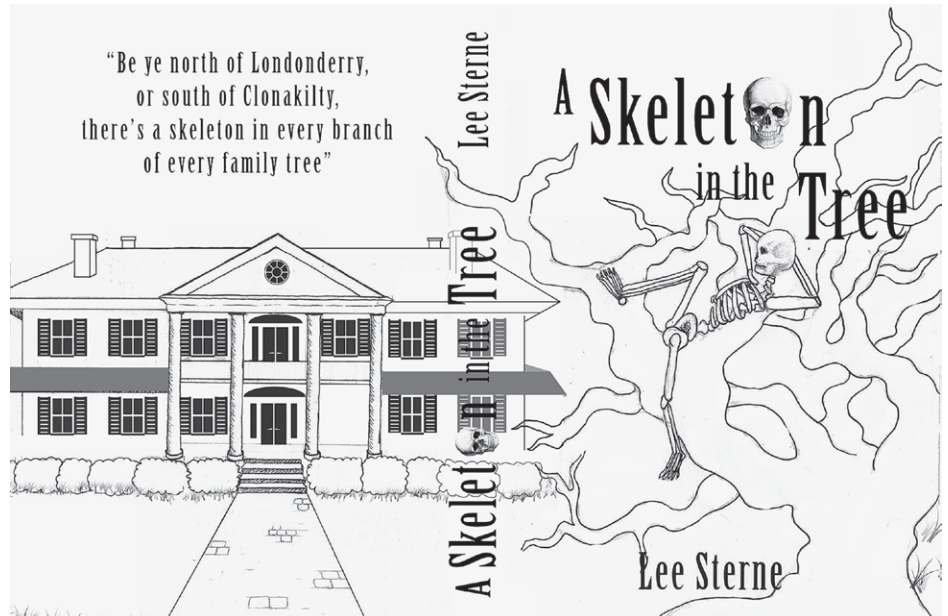
Jack Desalvo,
Computer Engineering, Glen Rock, NJ

Aaron Cahn,
Mechanical Engineering, Cleveland, OH

Carter Bowers,
Industrial Engineering, Chatsworth, GA

Quality, Not Quantity, Makes for Great Story

Lee Sterne's Life Reads Like a Novel, So It's No Surprise That He Started Writing Them



Lee Sterne '50 didn't spend as much time in the Phi Ep Pi house as his pledge brothers did, but there was an awfully good reason.

The first time he lived in the house, he got a semester under his belt before enlisting in the US Army Air Force as a bombardier cadet in January of 1943. After the war was over, he came back to the house and to his brothers, and got in another year before his father needed him to come home and help with the family food brokerage business. That move led to a lifelong career in food brokerage and then real estate.

Fast forward to today – Lee writes to us from the independent living section of a retirement community. He mentions that he's active for 92, even though that's pretty plain to see. After retirement at the age of 83, he started to write short stories. His first novel, *A Skeleton in the Tree* is available on Amazon.com and Barnes & Noble.com, and he's on his fifth draft of his next novel, *Corpus Absentia*, about fraternity brothers. And even though the people and setting of *Corpus Absentia* are fictional, his love for his time at Phi Ep Pi is evident in the stories he spins about his time there.

When he starts a story, "I hope the statute of limitations will protect me..." you know it will be a good one. In 1946, Tech played Georgia. Georgia had been #1 until it lost to Auburn two weeks earlier, and Tech took over first place in the ratings. The game was to be played in Athens. Four brothers got the wild idea to seed the field at Stamford Stadium with rye grass.

*"When he starts a story,
I hope the statute of
limitations will protect me...!
you know it will be
a good one."*

They bought a bag, borrowed a car and drove to Athens in the middle of the night, climbed the fence and laid out (in letters ten yards high) the words "BEAT GEORGIA" with grass seed. On the day of the game, they visited the Phi Ep house in Athens. The Phi Ep brothers in Athens were in a gambling mood and wanted to bet on the outcome of the game. Lee and his brothers kept refusing until they were offered 35 points and odds of 3–1. The final score ended up being Georgia 42, Tech 0, and the grass didn't come up till spring. Lee confides that he's never bet on another game since then (no word on whether his retirement community battles secretly-planted rogue rye grass).

Another favorite memory of Lee's is of the demolition party that occurred a year or two after he left school. He still lived in Albany and came back for the event. The fraternity had just received their buyout offer for the old house on Williams Street (the location is now a part of I-75) and some of the members became overly enthusiastic and began to use the decorations (sledge hammers, chisels and the like) for the

purposes intended, but not too wisely, since it would be at least another year or two before the house would actually be vacated for demolition.

"I wasn't in the house as long, so I have fewer memories than my brothers," he said when we interviewed him, but it didn't ring quite true. Maybe his abbreviated moments in the house made everything more meaningful and memorable. It was those short months, after all, that fueled the setting and characters for his next novel about fraternity brothers in southern Alabama grappling with a mystery.

His time at Phi Ep Pi is playing out in vivid stories, and readers like us are all the better for it.

Every Alum Has His Own Fraternity Story to Tell

Find more great profiles on your Phi Ep Pi and ZBT brothers at www.gtztb.org! We've recently featured stories on:

- Peter Schwartz '68
- Robert Tinsley '01
- Joey Moskowitz '75
- Hunter Morrell '18
- Matt Krajewski '20

If you would like to nominate yourself or a fellow brother for a future profile, email alumninews@affinityconnection.com (mention ZBT at GT).

ALUMNI UPDATES

Howard Shwiff '71

(3427 Pierce St., San Francisco, CA 94123; howard@yoursrvc.com) Still brokering an occasional real estate deal or two each year; my current specialty is 1031 exchanging clients into Walgreens and CVS triple nets. Good investment for you retired farts.

But for my next career ...I'm about six months away from opening a restaurant here in San Francisco. Of course it's with experienced partners, who offered me a piece of the action after I negotiated the lease and found a bank that will do the loan. So we're doing an unfussy Californian/Bavarian Restaurant and Bierhall, in historic Fort Mason, next to Fisherman's Wharf. Fort Mason is on national park federal land, part of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area, so our landlord is the National Park Service. Our space was a former Naval machine-shop perched on the seawall edge of the Bay at the tip of San Francisco with an awesome view of the Golden Gate Bridge.... a magical location. Imagine Bogart, Bacall (and me) filming another movie in San Francisco, the scene being shot in a Navy commissary like those that served soldiers departing from Fort Mason for the Pacific front. That's us.

The Bavarian ancestors of my partners must have come from a Jewish shtetl, because there are potato pancakes and matzaball-style Knödels on every plate next to the schnitzel, sauerbraten, rouladen beef rolls,

and red cabbage. Pretzels and German mustard are served with large steins of Pilsener & Doppelbock which adhere to the Reinheitsgebot (we'd say kosher) "beer purity decree."

Oh, and across the parking lot in Fort Mason (it's San Fran's cultural mecca), I'm taking guitar classes at the Blue Bear School of Music, continuing the rock & roll tradition for those of you who remember the basement practices and fraternity parties featuring our house band, the Psychedelic Erection, with Maurice Dembsky, Al Sternberger, Big Bro' Ken Sandler, and Gene Williams. Don't bogart that joint, my friends....

Am I going to have a good time, or what?

Irv Silver '72

(3630 Gardens Parkway #1105, Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410; irv.silver@ubs.com) One of my funniest memories is of when my pledge class did a pledge raid and stole the house's front door, toilet seats and shower heads. As pledges, we had to make believe we were the front door, walk with our arms in a circle to simulate a toilet seat, and with one arm raised above our head with our hand pointing down like a shower head. We had to do this for almost a week until we brought everything back.

What's new? My son, Jason, and his wife are having a baby girl in early September and my

daughter, Jacquelyn, is getting married.

Peter Hart '84

(79 Stimpson Ln., Cape May, NJ 08204; pete@twinbeach.org) I am now working for Tata Consulting Services as an "Engineering and Business Process Expert" consultant. My main client is GE Oil & Gas-Corporate, in Houston, Texas, but they are now known only as "Baker Hughes Oil & Gas, a GE Company". I also service clients in the Aerospace & Defense domain for TCS.

David Sheldon '93

(2224 Valley Vista Rd., Louisville, KY 40205; david.sheldon@ge.com) Life continues to be great – I'm a New Product Program Manager for GE Appliances at our headquarters here in Louisville, Ky. I've got two daughters, ages 15 and 17. There's more than enough Bourbon here for everyone so come by and say hello!

Mark Weilandt '94

(11135 Kimball Crest Dr., Alpharetta, GA 30022; mark27w@gmail.com) I recently accepted a new position with HCL-PowerObjects, a Microsoft Dynamics 365 (CRM) provider based in Minneapolis, Minn. I will still be based in Alpharetta, Ga. working out of my home office.

Share YOUR news at www.gtzb.org!

NEWS FROM 160 SIXTH STREET NW

Keeping Our House Competitive

Brother-Driven Improvement Projects Help Strengthen ZBT's Facility

While our house may not be the newest on campus, we continually put in a tremendous effort to keep the facility competitive.

This summer, we renovated the living room, removing the old paneling and installing drywall, adding a new ceiling with LED lights, and updating the electrical system. The brothers finished things up during work week, painting the new walls and installing a new floor.

We also replaced the retaining walls in the front yard. Originally, these walls

were put in place as a pledge class project in 1965, then replaced in 1988 when the brothers installed a set of railroad tie walls, and a brick surface was installed along the front walkway in 1995.

Unfortunately, the walls deteriorated in the past year and needed to be replaced. Special thanks to trustee **Patrick McDougal '92**, who oversaw the recent wall replacement, as well as the many generous donors who've contributed to our annual fund, which allows us to complete renovation projects like these.



Brothers enjoy the newly renovated living room.

Make Your Gift
There are three ways to donate:

Return the form from your recent fundraising letter with your check to:
Zach, Inc., Alumni Relations Office, P.O. Box 7007, Albert Lea, MN 56007-8007

Online at:
www.gtzb.org

By calling:
800-975-6699

Address Service Requested

597-178

In This Issue of Xi Lights...

- Recent Improvements Keep House Competitive
- Alumni Author Bases Book On His Phi Ep Days
- 2017 Homecoming Celebration Information

ALUMNI REUNIONS

A Fraternity for a Lifetime

Kudos to the following groups of alumni who have maintained their lifelong Phi Ep Pi and ZBT connections...



Catching Up for Metallica

[Above] Left to right: Brothers **Brandon Feldkamp '12**, **Logan Sandor '13**, and **Jeff Bernard '11** came in from Richmond, Va., Augusta, Ga., and Redmond, Wa., respectively, to see the rock band Metallica play at SunTrust Park on July 9. What a great way to catch up! Photo taken by **Richard Threlkeld '12**.



Checking Out the New SunTrust Park

[Upper Right] On May 21, Xi Chapter alumni gathered for the ZBT Atlanta-area Alumni Association event at a Braves game. ZBT reserved the Xfinity Rooftop area at the new SunTrust Park. Pictured are (left-to-right), **Mike "Mole" MacLellan '89**, **Jeff Grover '75**, **George "Rookie" Kalnin '74**, and **Doug Bodner '87**. Present but not pictured were **Harry Lutz '67**, **Paul Mandé '69**, and **Bob Shulman '69**.



Cheering On the Yellow Jackets

[Bottom Right] **Ed Myers '94**, **Bill King '98**, **William Spencer '92**. A group of alumni tailgated at the Xi Chapter house before the Tennessee game. Join us for tailgates before every home game this season!