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## COVID-19 UPDATE

As we go to press, Georgia Tech has announced a one-week closure of campus after spring break due to the COVID-19 pandemic and a transition from in-person courses to online courses for the remainder of the spring semester, starting March 30. We are busy determining the best steps forward to keep ZBT brothers safe, provide for academic and non-academic support and promote a fraternity experience for them to the extent possible. Please stay tuned to email updates as the situation progresses.

[www.gtzb.org](http://www.gtzb.org)



ΦΕΠ • 1916

# Xi-Lights



ZBT • 1970

Xi Chapter of Zeta Beta Tau Fraternity

March 2020

Georgia Tech • Atlanta, Ga.

## UPDATE FROM THE BOARD

### Amid Campus Closure, Great News for ZBT

With the Georgia Tech campus shut down and classes going online for the remainder of the semester, we are happy to share some good news. The Zeta Beta Tau Xi Chapter is proud to



announce that the Board continues to be financially stable, with good reserves. We are actively working with the Chapter and Actives to improve their recruitment efforts and the overall undergraduate experience for the future when everything goes back to business as usual.

A big part of the undergraduate experience, as you well know, is philanthropy and service, and we're proud to report that the Brothers have been just as active as ever in these types of endeavors, always looking for new opportunities, projects and organizations to partner with. Nationally, ZBT partners with Children's Miracle Network to raise money for their work, and Xi Chapter participates in that effort, but we'd also like to better empower the active Brothers to partner with local organizations in which Alumni are directly involved.

If you're involved with a service-based organization, nonprofit or philanthropy organization, and you would like to work with the ZBT actives, let us know! We can connect the right people and broaden the impact the actives are making in their community,

especially right now when so many people will be needing help.

The actives had been keeping the House well-maintained and in good shape. There are currently no major problem areas. We

plan on eventually having some landscaping done to replace the old, declining red tips in front of the Chapter room windows.

We covered the cost for four officers and programming advisor Andrew Rodrigues '09 to attend the ZBT Regional Officer Institute recently in Orlando. They brought back new ideas and programs for accountability, leadership, programming and recruitment.

In terms of events, we will obviously need to think more in terms of the future for now. We DID have a good turnout for Homecoming this past Fall, with many Alumni from the past 10 years attending the reunion. We had hoped you would join us for Spring Alumni dinners and the upcoming Alumni picnic at Top Golf in Alpharetta. This always promised to be a fun event and always gave Alumni of all ages the chance to We have re-assessed this event and in light of recent guidance and similar event cancellations by many other organizations, we have decided to cancel this year's event. Stay tuned to [www.gtzb.org](http://www.gtzb.org) for future events once we have cleared the current health situation.



## UNDERGRAD UPDATES

### How Active Brothers are Fulfilling the Mission and Credence of ZBT

Zeta Beta Tau Georgia Tech is living up to the mission and credo of the ZBT organization – “**Intellectual Awareness, Social Responsibility, Integrity and Brotherly Love**,” in order to prepare its Brothers for positions of leadership and service within their communities.” The active Brothers at ZBT Georgia Tech had been busy prior to Spring Break and the current pandemic with academics, philanthropic events and positions of leadership in pursuit of this mission.

#### Academics

The active Brothers are embracing their journey to intellectual awareness. They achieved a House GPA of 3.31 for the Fall semester, which earned them an award for most improved GPA. Their impressive success is due in part to six of the Brothers holding a 4.0 GPA. In addition, the new Brothers ranked 8 of 31 fraternities academically. They plan to continue steadfastly on the path they're on to academic excellence.

#### Philanthropy

Studying, however, is not all they have been up to. They have also been leaning

into their social responsibility through their philanthropy work, which was in full swing before the shutdown. Here are a few recent events:

- **Get on the Ball**, a Chapter favorite, which happened in early March. You can donate here with a flat donation: [shorturl.at/yDM29](https://shorturl.at/yDM29) OR donate here per signature: [shorturl.at/bisY9](https://shorturl.at/bisY9)
- **GT Philanthropy Expo**
- **Dance Marathon**

Outside of philanthropy, they have embraced the social responsibility within the fraternity through some notable events kicking off the Spring semester including, a **Brotherhood paintball event** and an **Alumni resume workshop** and **networking event** in January, and an **Alumni dinner at Marlow's Tavern** and **escape room team building activity** in February. The upcoming retreat planned for mid-April will need to be rescheduled.

#### Outside Leadership

Brothers are not confined to leadership within the Fraternity. They are taking advantage of all the campus has to offer. Here are a few



ZBT Recruitment Class

ways the active Brothers are participating in leadership of other organizations:

- **Isaac Kaufman** is a captain of IEEE Robotics
- **Jack DeSalvo** is on the operations committee of FTK
- Brothers are applying for FASET

We have no doubt that the active Brothers are preparing themselves for positions of leadership and service within their communities, both now and in the years to come.

## THE HEALTH BENEFITS TO A THRIVING BROTHERHOOD

### Why to Prioritize Your Zeta Beta Tau Events This Year

As Spring approaches, the Coronavirus pandemic has forced Georgia Tech and most all college campuses around the country to direct students to remain home after Spring Break for two more weeks and possibly, for the remainder of the semester. Normally, during this time of year, we are dreaming of where to go, what to do and most importantly, who we want to do it with.

The relationships that surround us are one of the most important keys to our enjoyment of life. We have communities that follow us through several seasons and those that come and go with our ever-changing lives. We hope you regard your ZBT Brothers as those who are there for the long haul. We all carry on with our lives away from the Tech campus that brought us together, but the Brotherhood formed there lasts forever. Yet, often, we men suck at staying connected. And now more than ever, your health depends on it.

#### Science is Proving Our Need for Relationship

We are built for relationships and science is beginning to show just how important it is to both our short-term and long-term health. The *Harvard Health* newsletter in their “The Health Benefits of Strong Relationships” article, highlights the importance of social communities.

“Social connections...influence our long-term health in ways every bit as powerful as adequate sleep, a good diet, and not smoking. Dozens of studies have shown that people who have social support from family, friends, and their community are happier, have fewer health problems and live longer.”

The good news is, engaging with your community – in this case,

the ZBT Brotherhood – is much easier than eating well, exercising and dropping your daily cigarette habit. By regularly engaging with your Brothers through social media, FaceTime and email you can continue the common thread of community that brought you together in the first place and reap the health benefits in your life.

If that's not enough, you're also proven to be happier now, by reliving positive memories, which we have in excess as Zeta Beta Tau Alumni.

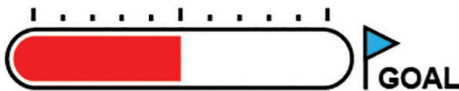
#### Make the Most of Your Greek Community

Despite most events and gatherings of any kind around the country being cancelled due to the pandemic, you might want to start planning your get-togethers now for the Fall or even NEXT summer. March Madness may have been cancelled this year, but we can still look forward to plenty of great events in the future. Once the weather heats up, things calm down and all the social distancing becomes less necessary, we can pick up right where we left off planning our next gatherings.

We the time comes or us to once again reconvene and celebrate our Brotherhood in person, we urge you to visit the website [www.gtzbt.org](http://www.gtzbt.org) to upload photos and submit your updates to keep the memories alive. In the meantime, if you have some great old photos you want to share, go to the website and submit them for everyone to enjoy. You'll never regret spending time with your Brothers. It's hard to make it happen. Life is busy and things are uncertain for many right now and being intentional takes effort, but it's worth it! Take advantage for the natural community Zeta Beta Tau creates. Brotherhood is a community you can count on for support, mentorship, friendship and now, a healthier, more meaningful life.

# ANNUAL FUND UPDATE

## Help Us Make the 2019-20 Giving Year Strong!



**Raised: \$7,454 | Goal: \$14,000**

Our 2019-20 giving year, which began on September 1, 2019, has less than six months left with \$7,454 collected from 40 Brothers. We want to thank those 40 Brothers (you can find them on this page and under the Honor Roll tab on our website [www.gtzbt.org](http://www.gtzbt.org)) who have already made a contribution to ZBT so far this giving year!

### David Zweighaft '84

*"I recognize the benefit that my ZBT experience gave me and want to help further the Chapter's ability to give future members the same life skills and preparation that I enjoyed during my college years."*

Our 2019-20 giving year goal was for \$14,000. Last year only 58 out of 563 Alumni chose to make a voluntary gift. **Who will be the next to join our 2019-20 or 2020 Honor Roll?**

You can donate online by simply going to our website, [www.gtzbt.org](http://www.gtzbt.org) and selecting the Donate button at the top of the page. Donations can also be made through our toll-free Donation Hotline at 1-800-975-6699, or by sending a check made payable to **Xi Chapter of Zeta Beta Tau** to:

**Zeta Beta Tau**  
Georgia Institute of Technology  
Alumni Relations Processing Center  
P.O. Box 7007  
Albert Lea, MN 56007-8007

Our college days came and went, but the real ZBT experience never ends. If you cherish those lasting friendships, if you appreciate the values that shaped your life, make your annual gift **today!**

### Robert Shulman '69

*"I have always felt close to Phi Ep (now ZBT). Being part of a group, Phi Ep was a great learning experience. As undergraduates, we were given the opportunities to take leadership positions, make collaborative decisions, and learn from our mistakes. This helped me later in life as I entered the business world. It was a great foundation for life. I made lifelong friends during my years at Tech. Since many stayed in Atlanta, our families have grown up together, and it all started in college."*

### Make Your Gift

There are three ways to donate:

**Log on to** [www.gtzbt.org](http://www.gtzbt.org) and click on **Donate** in the upper right-hand corner

**Call**  
800-975-6699

**Mail a check** payable to "Zach, Inc."  
to: Alumni Relations Office, P.O. Box 7007,  
Albert Lea, MN 56007-8007

## 2019-20 HONOR ROLL

### Thank You!

The following Alumni are recognized for their annual fund contributions in 2019-20.

Reflects gifts received from September 1, 2019 through March 1, 2020.

<b>Superiors (\$500 - \$749.99)</b>		Jeffrey Arbital	1975	Jeff Goodman	1971
Douglas Bodner	1987	Nicholas Vasti	1980	Charlie Cohn	1972
Chuck Patel	1993	Michael Zettel	1981	William Fairchild	1982
Jacob Rossi	2010	Robert Josephs	1982	Thomas Keen	2013
		Hyuk Kwon	1993		
<b>Trustees (\$250 - \$499.99)</b>		Evan Bates	1994	<b>Buzz (\$50-\$74.99)</b>	
Barry Benator	1966			Marvin Gechman	1957
Alan Haas	1981	<b>Gentlemen (\$125-\$159.99)</b>		Ronald Pohl	1969
Mark Rhodes	1988	Robert Wellins	1957	Alan Rosen	1973
Michael Roseman	1988	Peter Schwartz	1968	Jerome Cohen	1980
Michael MacLellan	1989	Jeffrey Barab	1977	Andrew Rodrigues	2009
Richard Threlkeld	2012	Denis Quarles	1978		
<b>160 Sixth Street Society (\$160- \$249.99)</b>		<b>Xi (\$75-\$124.99)</b>		<b>Other</b>	
Morris Nussbaum	1973	George Ragovis	1955	Michael Weinstein	1970
Thomas Sanders	1974	Stanley Cohen	1964		
George Kalnin	1974	Harvey Helman	1970		





**Zeta Beta Tau**  
**Georgia Tech**

Alumni Relations Processing Center  
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## In This Issue of Xi Lights...

- Undergraduate Update
- Events Update
- Honor Roll

## ZBT RETREAT GETS OFF TO A FIERY START

### Brother Steve McEvoy '13 Recalls His First-Ever Brotherhood Retreat

For Brother **Steve McEvoy '13**, the ZBT Brotherhood retreats still ring clearly in his mind. Nothing compares to the memories created during those retreat weekends.

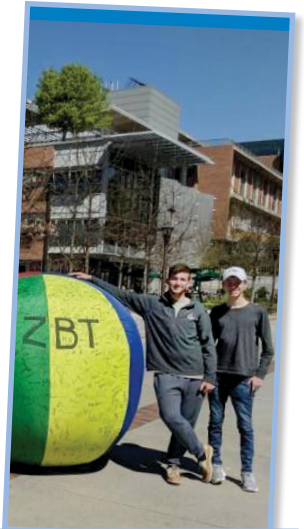
McEvoy '13 recently shared a story from his first-ever Brotherhood retreat that he says he'll never forget.

The retreat was at a Brother, Andrew's, family cabin in Georgia. It took a couple hours to get there, so the sun was setting when we pulled up on the Friday night of the retreat weekend. The cabin backed up to a creek, which was pretty full because of recent rain. On the opposite bank was forest that belonged to Georgia Power. Immediately upon getting out of the car, Brother Richard started shooting off fireworks, one of which landed on the opposite bank.

We knew it had been raining, but there were a lot of fallen leaves on the bank, so we watched for a minute and sure enough, a small fire started. The sun was down at this point, and the creek was dark, so Brother Jacob pulled up his Jeep and shown his headlights on the creek, maybe 40 yards across. Richard grabbed a shovel, took off his shirt and started wading into the creek, only lit up by the Jeep. He got to the deepest part of the creek, almost up to his shoulders, when the fire on the bank went out on its own.

There were many other stories from that night that stick with me, but the firework fire turned from funny, to serious, to scary, to hilarious so quickly that it's the first thing I'll always think of when I think of ZBT Brotherhood stories.

If you have a story from a Brotherhood Retreat, we want to hear it! Email [Alumninews@affinityconnection.com](mailto:Alumninews@affinityconnection.com) and tell us your best retreat memory!



## HAVE YOU REGISTERED ON THE ALUMNI WEBSITE?

[www.gtzb.org](http://www.gtzb.org)

Brotherhood is unique. We spend four years on a college campus with our fraternity Brothers, and as a result, we have a community for a lifetime. We want to make the most of those connections. Our Brotherhood has a reach that extends across the country. It provides a resourceful network of support, professions and community.

We have provided an online forum on our website for you to connect with other alumni. By utilizing the alumni website, you can stay in contact with Brothers wherever life after graduation took them. Register online for our password-protected platform, so you can upload photos, utilize the searchable directory, and read and provide updates. Visit the alumni page and get connected today! Register online and start the conversation that has been years in the making!



**To Get Current News, Share Memories,  
See the Honor Roll, AND TO DONATE!**  
Visit Our Website: [www.gtzb.org](http://www.gtzb.org)