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BY THE NUMBERS

105

Years of Xi Chapter

\$14,000

Annual Fund Goal

\$13,691

Raised as of June 24, 2021

3

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Xi-Lights

Xi Chapter of Zeta Beta Tau Fraternity

July 2021

Georgia Tech • Atlanta, Ga.



ZBT • 1970

CHAPTER UPDATE

Redeveloping Xi Chapter & New House Efforts

Dear ΦΕΠ/ZBT Brothers:

I am writing to provide an update on the chapter and our house situation. Last fall, I advised you of the potential acquisition of the house, planned for the 2022-23 academic year, to make way for a new 6th Street thoroughfare from campus to Midtown on the other side of the interstate.

This is part of an ambitious Midtown Atlanta transportation overhaul effort whose public website is abetterconnector.com. I encourage you to review the site. While it is an advertisement for the project, it provides some useful detail as to scope and impact. The project has not yet been funded, but it has powerful backing in Atlanta. Coupled with that, the federal government is poised to spend billions on infrastructure, making funding likely.

So where do we stand? Let's break things down according to stakeholder group, with developments and our expectations.

Georgia Tech. If all or part of our property is to be taken, we would certainly expect Georgia Tech to provide a new lot in the campus Greek Sector. We and Alpha Xi Delta, which is likewise affected, have communicated this in no uncertain terms. Georgia Tech has been responsive thus far and discussed several available lots with us. Due to the limited availability of land, these lots are small and have potential remediation issues for buildability.

MCP Foundation. We have some preliminary discussion with this organization, which is spearheading the project. They have indicated that compensation would be governed by the Uniform Act, since the project would be primarily federally funded for road construction. Thus, compensation would consider relocation expenses, not just the current property value. This is potentially good news but is only preliminary. We expect to engage more with them in early 2022 when they have completed the project detailed design and have a decision on funding.

Chapter. Obviously, we need a strong chapter

if we are to build a new house. Unfortunately, the chapter has struggled in recent years, especially with the pandemic. We will be engaging with the national fraternity for a chapter redevelopment effort kicking off soon. The good news is that fall semester is back to normal on campus with regular residential instruction. Stay tuned.

Alumni. We are pleased that many of you have donated this past year in increased amounts to help us address the upcoming situation. To be clear, we are not soliciting directly for a new house at this point, but we do need funds for legal expenses, chapter redevelopment efforts and other priorities. On the other hand, though, we will need substantially increased alumni involvement with chapter advisement, new house efforts, and house management. I expect better in this area if you want ZBT to remain on campus.

National. We have been in touch with the national office and are in the process of planning out the chapter redevelopment, along with a revitalized alumni engagement effort and cooperation with the national housing corporation. I believe they are on the same page, that keeping a historic housed chapter at a premier campus is worthwhile.

In summary, we have very incomplete information at this point, but we can be cautiously optimistic with the caveat that there is much work ahead. I look forward to your continued and/or renewed support.

C., F., & S.,

Douglas A. Bodner
President & Executive Trustee



View of the Phi Ep House (1949, donated by Ernest Scheller '52)

Submit YOUR Alumni News Today!

Visit the "Submit An Update" page at www.gtzb.org or email us at alumninews@affinityconnection.com.

Lee Sterne '50

Alumni update: My family had a food brokerage business and wanted me to join. I spent the next 20 years with it. Then, because of my wife's health issues, we left and moved west in 1967. I lived and worked for the next three years in Lubbock, TX, in the same field, then from 1970 through 1979, with another firm in El Paso, TX. I left the food business in 1979 and became a real estate broker. I semi-retired at the end of 1999. For the next eight years, I supplied information and analysis about the local market to the last firm I worked with. I began writing short stories in 2009 and switched to novels in 2013. Since then, I've completed and published three and am now, at the age of 96, about 60% through the fourth. I have a son, daughter, a stepson, four grandchildren, and thirteen greats. I lost a stepdaughter. My stepson is retired, my son lives in Singapore and is head of English One at the Chinese University of Hong Kong at their Shenzhen campus. My daughter is a C.P.A., but not active in her field.

Stanley Cohen '64

Alumni update: I received my Ph.D. in Quantitative Psychology from Michigan State University. During this time, I also married the "girl of my dreams," Judy Kunik, who I met at the wedding of my Phi Ep best friend. I taught one year at the University of Chicago and then moved to West Virginia University where I remained until my retirement about 12 years ago. Judy and I have two beautiful sons who are both married and we have three grandkids.

Lessons learned because of Phi Ep/ZBT:

Since I held offices in the fraternity, I value the organizational and leadership skills developed there. Also, community living (three years in the house) was challenging—but mostly socially rewarding—at times.



Most memorable moments: By far the socials on the weekend which gave me much

relief from the studying and stress at GT. And the dates I had through these events since at that time GT had a small female enrollment.

"Fraternity life broadened both my intellectual and social skills. It provided built-in classmates that shared the college experience, both its ups and downs. I've included photo of a party held in the house."

Allan Quiat '73



Alumni update: "The Long and Winding Road..." It's been a lifetime since my days at Tech with my Phi Ep/ZBT brothers. Wonderful family life with my special someone Jeannie, great sons Eric and Daniel, daughter-in-law Elizabeth, and granddaughters Noa and Eve. A long-run of a career with Chevron Corporation (almost 42 years), culminating with retirement in 2014. Until COVID hit, we had been traveling fools, including a great international cruise that included several days of landings on the Antarctic peninsula.

Lessons learned because of Phi Ep/ZBT:

"There is no 'I' in 'Team'" would be one of those lessons. Another would be that a



Photos courtesy of Allan Quiat '73

life well-lived involves at least some level of serving others; that returns unexpected gifts to the giver. And lastly, for those still slogging through the daily grind, please remember: "The inbox will NEVER be empty"; take the needed breaks to smell the roses and enjoy life, because all of that work will STILL be there when you return!

Most memorable moments: Playing bridge with the house "card sharks" (and all-around good guys) in the living room; Dream Girl formals; Sheba; Chef Westberry; Intramural football and how freakin' sore it made me the next day; Angel Soto; Paul Mande; Harvey Helman; "SuperChicken"; "Duck" Dechovitz; "FA" Levin; Getting busted in Stone Mountain Park for "unauthorized beverages..." I could go on and on...

John Nott '07

Alumni update: After School, I went to work for the company I interned with for a few summers, Griffith Engineering Inc. It was a small company and as an intern, I was the third employee. I had initially gotten the job through a friend and ZBT alum, **Jaime Fernandez '04**. I wanted to stick around Atlanta due to connections with other brothers and the fact I was dating my future wife Michelle (our first date was a fraternity date night). I started at the bottom of Griffith when I joined full-time in fall 2007. The company had grown since my first days as an intern, and I was one of eight employees. As the company continued to grow, I was given more responsibility. Also, I married my wife in 2008 and we bought our first home,
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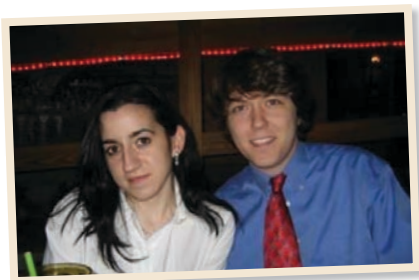
Brothers Share Their Best Phi Ep/ZBT Memories



Greek Week Tug, 2004. Left-to-Right: **Ben Deneweth '06**, me, **John Strickland '06**, **Kent Smith '06**, and maybe Vernet or **Jimmy Jiang '06** peeking on the right side of the photo.



Six Flags Fright Night, 2006. Left-to-Right: **Nick Clift '07**, **Michael Kelly '10**, **Jacob Rossi '10** (hoodie), **Jose Fundora '10**, **William Rather '09**, me, **George Taktikos '10**, Richard's girlfriend Tara, **Richard Threlkeld '12**, **Mark Zoller '08**.



ZBT date night, spring 2007. My first date with my future wife Michelle Rivero, taken at Loca Luna. We attended Wicked at the Fox afterward.



Spring break, Miami, 2007. Left-to-Right: **Jacob Rossi '10**, me, **William Rather '09**, **Ryan Heyser '11**, **Andrew Rodrigues '09**, **Richard Threlkeld '12**, Andrew's girlfriend Christi, Richard's girlfriend Tara, **Jose Fundora '10**.

Photos courtesy of John Nott '07

a townhome in Peachtree Corners Circle in 2009. We spent the next four years with our cats and jobs, both of us moving up in our careers. In 2013, my efforts to deliver quality work and keep clients happy awarded me the opportunity to buy in a partner at my engineering firm. I consider it part hard work, part good luck with the situation, and part support from my wife that lead me to that opportunity. In 2014, my life changed even more with the birth of my daughter Savannah. She is incredible, smart, and totally a Daddy's girl. As she got moving around, we realized the smaller townhome we were in was not really big enough for our family. I think at that time, we were down to a couch,

TV, and baby things in the living/dining room...nothing else. Luckily, both my career advancement, the economic upturn, and my wife's transition to the General Services Administration allowed us the means to make that move. In 2015, we purchased a home in Peachtree Corners in a Chattahoochee river neighborhood. It is a great area for Savannah to go to school and gave us the space to do more with our lives. Since then, my daughter and role in my company have only grown. While my company certainly felt the impact of COVID, we have ridden through it fairly well compared to many small businesses. Our family struggled to meet the demands of schooling our daughter with two full-

time employed parents, but we made it through. Savannah has started back at school and that has been great for her socially, and mentally...and for us too! On a personal level, I have enjoyed being a part of my neighborhood's ALTA tennis teams. I had played a lot in high school, but let that lapse a bit in college and right after. With my wife, we have taken up a good bit of gardening, both outside and hydroponically in our basement. We also purchased a classic car last year for my wife to use since she is not a full-time remote employee and doesn't drive much anyway. It has been fun to have the ability to learn new skills related to maintaining a vehicle like that.

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Homecoming dates, chapter house news, and class updates within!

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FOR THE KIDS

ZBT Raises \$1,185 for Children's Healthcare of Atlanta



Last semester, brothers of Zeta Beta Tau participated in a dance marathon in order to raise money and awareness for Children's Miracle Network Hospitals benefitting Children's Healthcare of Atlanta. Over the course of the dance marathon, the brothers raised a whopping \$1,185 for the kids! A huge shout out to Jack DeSalvo for leading the efforts and to For the Kids at Georgia Tech for pulling this event together!

We are very proud of your philanthropic efforts, brothers! Congratulations!

Alumni News ...continued...

Lessons learned because of Phi Ep/ZBT: The most valuable thing I learned was confidence.



*GT basketball game, 2004-2005 season (I think).
Left-to-Right: Ben Deneweth '06, Jimmy Jiang '06, me (John Nott '07).*

That manifested in a number of ways but really gave me the ability to excel in a management role in my engineering company. I work with so many incredibly smart engineers that are held back in their careers because they lack the people skill to advance to the next level. Additionally, I learned real-world skills through recruiting challenges and pursuits. Recruiting taught me how to sell my organization to others. It taught me the value of believing in what you are selling, and that sincerity is your best tool.

Most memorable moments: The

people and shared experiences are certainly the most impactful memories. Brotherhood retreats and just hanging out with brothers in the house stick with me. I grew up as an only child so it was very novel to me to have your brothers around all the time. It was such a blessing that no matter what was going on, there were usually at least one or two guys that were interested in hanging out.

HOMECOMING 2021

The Jackets Are Back!



There's nothing better than a roaring crowd of white and gold welcoming Ramblin' Wreck onto the field at Bobby Dodd Stadium. Mark your calendars for Homecoming Weekend 2021! We look forward to welcoming you back campus the weekend of October 29 where the Yellow Jackets will take on the Virginia Tech Hokies. For more Homecoming game ticket information, visit ramblinwreck.com/footballtickets.