

THE CRIMSON & GOLD



Zeta Chi Alumni Association
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Stag 2007



Dear Zeta Chi Alumni:

102 years of Zeta Chi. It is spring, a time when all Zeta Chi's thoughts drift back to the good old days at Baker. If you haven't visited Baker and Greater Baldwin City in the past few years, if you missed the centennial celebration, this year would be a really good time to renew old acquaintances. There are several new attractions in Baker and Baldwin City. A visit to the Baker Library will take into a world of technology, significantly upgraded and expanded. A stroll across campus will reveal many changes. Baldwin has seen a spurt of development along US 56 highway. Our fair city now boasts three banks, a fitness center, plus many other new stores! If things continue to change so much, we may have to include a map to Baker with next year's STAG invitation.

STAG is on May 19th, Zeta Chi will celebrate its 102 STAG. While some things do change here, we try to keep other things the same. (You see, the budget for STAG does not provide funds for a creative director). The important part of STAG is YOU. We hope you can find time to attend

this year. Send an e-mail/letter to your roommates, pledge brothers, and friends and announce that it is time for a reunion!!

Plan to attend and bring your son, nephew or neighbor. Please fill in the enclosed card and return it to us and include a few words for the good of the order, or a favorite memory you have of your days at Zeta Chi. And, if you haven't paid your dues, please enclose a check. Dues are unchanged and a form is in this newsletter, but why not put in a little extra.

The schedule for STAG is etched in stone—Mid-afternoon, gather at the Zeta Chi house, meet friends, and check out your old room.

5:00 pm – Zeta Chi Alumni Association Meeting in the Dining Room

6:00 pm – Zeta Chi STAG dinner in the Fellowship Hall of the First Methodist Church.

Fifty Years, Class of '57

If you know a Zeta Chi from the class of '57 please contact him and encourage him to attend stag this year. Contact one of the trustees if you are interested in heading up a class project for the class of '57.

Classes with special reunions are the classes of 1997, 1982 and 1957, 10, 25 and 50 years, respectively. If you have Internet access check out the Zeta Chi web sit at www.zetachi.org. Look under brothers to review the list of those with email address and add yours if it is not there.

Return your stag card today.

In Memory of Eric Price



Eric, Cydnee, and Dani Price

By Len Sapp

Eric Price, class of 2003, ZX alumni was killed in a car accident January 2007. His memory is being honored by ZX with a fund to support his only daughter, eleven months old at the time of the accident. Eric was a devoted ZX both as an active and especially as an alumnus. As an active he served 4 years in numerous capacities, most notably President. As an alumnus, he was a devoted trustee and active chapter liaison every year after graduation. As a person, nobody challenges the depth of his character. Eric was a kind and accommodating person. Anytime someone needed help with a task, school work, someone to talk to or just play 1 on 1 basketball; Eric was always ready to help. Eric would not speak poorly of anyone and would not entertain any gossip from others. Unlike most young men, Eric would compliment others and did so frequently. Eric was a hard worker; he was an active leader when it came to repairing and maintaining the structure of our house. Eric was a devoted student and brother; irreplaceable and undeniable. This fund will support Cydnee as a Baker student. The contributions ZX makes toward this fund will be matched by Baker University, who is managing the fund. Please everyone contribute a little something, \$10 donated today could mean as much as \$80 for Cydnee in tuition.

Newsletter on the Web

Zeta Chi is moving forward on information highway. The newsletter is and has been available on the Zeta Chi website, under the Alumni link. The website has been under going construction. If you have not been there lately you should plan a visit. The newsletter pictures come out in black and white in the printed version; they come out in color on the web. As more and more of our brothers take the on-ramp to the information highway it makes sense to use email to announce the posting of the newsletter. <http://www.zetachi.org/>

If you have email and are willing to receive your newsletter via the web send your email address to the editor, Bob Burnham at BobBurnham77@yahoo.com

The less money we spend on postage and the fewer trees we kill, the more that can be put into the house. If you are looking for the email address of a brother many of them are posted on the ZX web site, or send a note to Bob Burnham.

Thirty Years, Class of '77

If you are a member of the class of '77 please contact Bob Burnham about the class project. The goal is to have 100 percent of the class attend stag. Do you remember the good times? Do you remember Ramble? Do you remember going to Joe's for donuts during finals week? Do you remember stay up all night studying for finals?

In addition to just attending stag, this year the 30 year class will have a class project to benefit the house. We need to raise at least \$300.00 for shirts for rush. In addition to ZX logo we are going to include the class of '77 on the shirt. The house is looking to the class of '77 to make rush exceptional this year. Let's make it happen. Make checks payable to Zeta Chi, put class of '77 in the memo.

Bob Burnham, class of '77, can be reached at address: PO Box 302, Idaho Springs, CO 80452, phone: 303-619-8835, email: BobBurnham77@yahoo.com

ZX Good Turn

The following is a letter from Phil Figgs that should make us all proud of our house:

Gentlemen: Wanted to drop you a short note and tell you how the presentation of the silent movie went on Friday. We had a good crowd, including some people from the community who had seen the announcement in the Baldwin paper.

I can't tell you what a FANTASTIC job the Zeta Chi actives did. When I first proposed their helping me with this project it was largely with the idea that it would be an opportunity for them to get a little good press in Baldwin at a time when the fraternity was sort of struggling. This did happen, but I had no idea how badly I would need their help. They arrived on time, neatly dressed, and set to work immediately arranging chairs, popping popcorn, distributing soft drinks to the residents, setting up the piano, etc. The president even picked up some older people around town that I wanted to be able to see the movie but that I had no time to go and get.

It turned out that there were a couple of skylights in the room where the movie was to be shown, and one of the boys got up on a ladder and covered them with tape and tinfoil. Bill Deal, a Zeta Chi that I know from playing for the Baldwin Rotary Club when I was a student, was pleased as he could be that his fraternity was doing all this. (Bill is probably about 90 and is a resident at Vintage Park.) "Didn't those boys do a good job?" he said.

"I'm sure proud of them!"

The boys did not leave until everything was picked up and put away. I couldn't have asked for better help. The Baldwin newspaper was there and took some pictures which I imagine will run later this week.

The big surprise, however, came after the movie was over. I thought that, since the boys had stayed after their finals to help, the least I could do was send them over something to eat. I stopped at the fraternity house to find out how many people were

around before I ordered pizza. The house was not only IMMACULATE, it was also beautifully decorated inside for

Christmas: icicle lights, an impressive tree, and even a Star of David for the boy in the house that is Jewish. The active who answered the door

(Brandon) was extremely polite and seemed pleased to see me, asking if I would like a tour of the house. He told me how much the fraternity meant to him and how much the guys meant to each other. He explained their new alcohol policy -- no alcohol in the house during the school week. Later when I had supper at the barbeque place downtown, I found the president working there. I remarked to the owner that he had helped show the movie, and she told me privately what a wonderful employee he was and how she had promoted him to assistant manager immediately after she hired him.

You can see what a positive experience I had, from beginning to end. I know your numbers are low, but I hope you will be encouraged to know that those boys are really trying hard to turn things around. The fact that only 30 boys TOTAL went through rush last fall seems to indicate that it is tough times for all the Greek houses.

One last sort of personal comment: Someone from the community who knows I am connected to Kappa Sigma seemed to feel that it was strange for me to have involved another fraternity in helping with this project, asking what I thought the Kappa Sigs would think. I don't think they would care, but even if they did, it is time for the Greek houses to put their long-time rivalries aside and work together to redefine their role in the Baker community as the changing times demand. ALL THE FRATERNITIES WOULD LOSE if Zeta Chi were to fold because it would set a precedent for closing an old, respected fraternity; it would send the message to the campus that the era of Greek houses was over. The hard times that Zeta Chi is experiencing now could easily fall on ANY of the other houses within a period of just three or four years!!

Hope I have not said more than I should have. I will see if I can get the BAKER ORANGE to run a story and/or picture of the event last weekend as I believe that what your members did reflects well on the Greek community as a whole, and I would like Baker's new president to be sure to know about it. Phil Figgs, Baker '87

House Improvements

ZX Building Fund: During the 100-year celebration, you our brothers made significant gifts for the improvements at the house a higher standard of living for the activities. Some of the improvements were:

- 1) Renovations of the chapter room (ceilings, walls, floors , sump pump system , security closet and wall heaters)
- 2) New furnace and air conditioning through Main house and brick addition
- 3) Renovations of room new doors that comply with Fire marshal codes
- 4) New floors for the Trophy room ,entry hall , and Living room
- 5) New furniture for the Living room (chairs, sofa, and area rugs)
- 6) Fallen brothers for America (flag, monument and lighting system)
- 7) Renovation of the House mother room and bathroom
- 8) Replacement of the Kitchen Floor and back hallways
- 9) Replacement of Kitchen counters with stainless steel (Health dept code compliance)
- 10) Gutters on the Main house and brick addition

The reality of improvements is we continue to find challenges in the house, since we are dealing with an old structure. A few items that need to be addressed:

- 1) Windows (main house and brick addition)
- 2) Fire code compliance around Kitchen stove and hood
- 3) Rotting wood on Front porch and roof
- 4) Rotting wood / terminates on back porch and storage rooms
- 5) Water drainage system away from the house
- 6) Plumbing upgrades

Needless to say we have on going maintenance items that continue if we are going to have a safe environment for ZETA CHI. This on going situation has brought us the following suggestion A BUILDING FUND. We encourage different classes to

contribute to the house at least once every five years. This suggestion would encourage your class to return as a group at least every five years along with making a donation to the house. IF you can't return then please consider a larger donation. REMEMBER: for the centennial we had 150 back for stag and IT WAS INCREDIBLE.

Consider the following: Class of 1997 (10 yr. Class); Class of 1992 (15 yr. Class); Class of 1987 (20 yr. Class); Class of 1982 (25 yr. Class); Class of 1977 (30 yr. Class); Class of 1972 (35 yr. Class); Class of 1967 (40 yr. Class); Class of 1962 (45 yr. Class) and Class of 1957 (50 yr. Class).

We do not want to limit participation in the Building Fund to only these classes but would want to encourage a consistent level of giving back to our brotherhood.

Thank you for keeping ZETA CHI in your thoughts and annual donations.

Dennis Seager, Trustee Class of 70

ZX Focus in 2007

From the time we all took the Pledge Creed of Zeta Chi we have set our sites on the ideals of our fraternity. These ideals have guided our brothers for more than 100 years. The annual focus changes over time based on these ideal. Please give your input as what the focus, mission and goals should be for our house in the coming year. Send to BobBurnham77@yahoo.com or a trustee.

Add to History

At the past stags we collected stories from back in the day. We are continuing to collect these stories. Bring some of your best, or worst, stories to stag this year. These stories will appear in the newsletter. So think back to the events of your day. Think of the things that make you smile when you think back.

Story telling is just as much for the young as it is for the old. So, recent graduates are invited to put their stories to pen and/or keyboard. Do it before your memory starts to fade, like so many of us. Do it before someone else tells your story his way.

Alumni President Report

I'm looking forward to the seeing everyone on May 19th at the 102nd Zeta Chi Stag. Hopefully, there will be a lot of men from the large 25 year class of 1982. My wife, Theresa, and I are especially looking forward to May the 20th when our son, Jason, graduates from Baker. Maybe our bank account will get a little chance to recover, although we still have a daughter at K-State,

This will be my last Stag as President of the Trustees. It has been a rewarding experience, but after 3 years as president and 19 years on the board, it is time to step away for a while.

I take some great memories form my tenure as president. Probably the highlight for me was our Centennial Celebration in 2005. That entire weekend was great fun. We dedicated the Zeta Chi Memorial before the Stag that year, thanks to the efforts of Ed Ziembinski, class of 2002. I felt the memorial was a great way to celebrate our history, and it is an impressive addition to our property. In the past three years, we have made real strides in the condition of the house, including central air conditioning and improved heating. The living room was greatly improved and dedicated as the John Arnold room. My thanks to Dennis Seager for leading the Capital Campaign, and to all those who contributed to the project and to those who have supported Zeta Chi through the years. There is certainly much more to be done, but I am proud of what we have accomplished these past 3 years.

The low point of my tenure as president was the death of our colleague, Eric Price. Eric was everything we want Zeta Chi men to be. He was one of the most genuinely happy people I have ever known. I have no doubt he was destined to lead Zeta Chi as Alumni

president. I am grateful for his efforts as chapter advisor and Vice-President of the Board. One testimony of Eric's impact on Zeta Chi was that more than 50 active and alumni members of Zeta Chi were present at his funeral. Eric, my brother, I miss you, but we will meet again someday.

Finally, it has been a great honor to work with the young men of Zeta Chi and those not so young. Thank you to all the men I have served with on the board over the years, and to those other alumni who offered encouragement. The best thing about being at a Zeta Chi meeting or event, I always knew I was in the presence of quality men. I will always be proud to be a Zeta Chi. Fraternaly, Dennis

Chapter House Officers

The active chapter officers are:

- President- Nick Wasser
- Vice President- Kyle Jones
- Secretary- Greg Rogers
- Treasurer- Brandon Jacobs
- Scholarship- Zach Huges
- Rush- Brandon Weckbaugh and Kyle Britton
- Chaplain- Zach Hughes
- House Manager- Sam Coffee
- Social- Jesse Kern and Brandon Jacobs
- Historian- Brandon Weckbaugh
- Alumni Relations- Brandon Weckbaugh
- Intramurals- Kyle Jones
- IFC- Nick Wasser
- Student Senate- Jason Krebs

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