



EPSILON SIGMA CHAPTER

Spring 2019 Newsletter

A Message from our Alumni Relations Chairman

Dear Alumni Brother,

My name is Logan Rogers, and it is my utmost pleasure to present to you the Spring 2019 Alumni Newsletter!

It is the belief held by me and our active brotherhood that membership and engagement with our order should not end at graduation. The commitment to Sigma Nu is a lifelong one and should be fostered through active communication and involvement with the chapter.

Accompanying the release of this newsletter will be the official launch of our chapter's website at sigmanurhodes.com. Here, we will post regular updates of our events, accomplishments, and the usual goings-on within the Epsilon Sigma chapter. You can also expect additional correspondence with the chapter in the form of monthly reports to be released on the first Thursday of every month. If you miss this newsletter, or any other correspondence with the chapter, you can find it posted on the new website.

Throughout this newsletter, you will find there to be frequent reference made to our *goals* as a brotherhood. With our newly elected leaders came a newly found focus on ensuring that a common vision be held amongst our brothers- a vision of fraternal excellence and prosperity. My goal in assembling this newsletter was to encapsulate this desire to improve by showcasing the work and words of our particularly dynamic executive council members. Following my foreword, there are messages from Keith Harrison, our Eminent Commander; Tran, our housing chairman; and Luke Staffelbach, our philanthropy chairman.

I hope that you find these messages to be as inspiring as we do. Our fraternity is nothing without its alumni and the legacy they have created. We wish for you all to be a part of its present and future now, too.

Fraternally,

Logan Rogers

A Message from our Eminent Commander

Distinguished Alumni,

Allow me to formally introduce myself to you. My name is Keith Harrison and I am the current Commander of the Epsilon Sigma chapter here at Rhodes College. I would like to take some time to update you on the current status of our chapter and share our vision for this semester and beyond.

Thus far, through the help and diligence of our housing corporation, our last housing chair, and our alumni, we have undertaken several projects aimed at improving the integrity and appearance of our on-campus house. The experiences that we have shared with one another during this process has brought us much pride and has served as the catalyst for reinvigorating our chapter by providing us with positive momentum and a common purpose.

This semester we are placing an increased emphasis on philanthropy and outreach both on campus and in the Memphis community. On the philanthropy side, we will consolidate our efforts to focus on St. Jude, rather than the piecemeal system that we currently have, in which many different causes and organizations receive small fractions of our attention. We believe this will be significantly more effective and efficient and allow us to build a meaningful and lasting connection with an amazing organization. On the outreach side, we aim to show Memphis in general and Rhodes College in particular, that Sigma Nu is more than just a group of guys who put on social functions. We plan to do this by leveraging our influence on campus through our many members who hold leadership positions. Thus, allowing us to directly engage with students, faculty, and administration by hosting forums for discussion, partnering with our other on campus fraternities to hold panels addressing the concerns of underclassmen, and generally educating our students about the many opportunities that Greek life offers besides the social scene. We are laser-focused on promoting our brand and our values to our Rhodes community, and ensuring that *we* are the ones in charge of our narrative.

Finally, my personal chief concern and main goal above all others is to foster a culture of humility within the chapter. It is my personal belief that the ego is the death of progress and growth. Therefore, I invite you to a continuous dialogue with the active chapter, as all our members could benefit from your years of experience. Please, feel free to stop by the house, attend a chapter meeting, or contact myself or our alumni relations chairman. We are stronger as a group when working in conjunction with those who have come before us. Thank you for your support, and I look forward to further communication with you all.

Fraternally,

Keith Harrison

An Important Update from our House Chairman

Brothers,

My name is Tran and I am the new housing chairman, and I am very excited to lead my brothers in housing projects. As many of you are aware, our fraternity house is a symbol of our brotherhood's pride and hard work. Like the many housing chairmen that preceded me, I am dedicated to the constant improvement and upkeep of the house.

This year, our brotherhood has engaged in many large-scale projects in the interest of keeping our house beautiful. These tasks, such as repainting the basement, polishing the floors, and power washing our porch and the surrounding pavement, have earned us a reputation of cleanliness and presentability across the campus. Aside from the professional installation of air conditioning, heating, and Wi-Fi, all our renovation projects have been completed by brothers.

My goal during my tenure as housing chair is to continue this pattern of excellence, and further promote a culture amongst our brotherhood that takes pleasure in renovation of our house, so that we can create a space for brothers to comfortably use at any time. In order to continue this progress, we are in the process on turning the upstairs into a study room with desks and chairs for the brothers to commune and complete school work.

We have come a long way, and there is still plenty of progress to be made in the upcoming semesters. It is my hope and the hope of our active brotherhood that you see yourself in this vision of a beautiful house that we can all be proud of.

I look forward to hosting all of you in the future.

Fraternally,

Tran

A Message from our Philanthropy Chairman

Greetings Brothers,

My name is Luke Staffelbach, and I have the pleasure of representing our chapter as the newly elected philanthropy chairman. As brothers of Sigma Nu fraternity, whether in Memphis or beyond, it is our duty to serve the community and represent ourselves and our order as gentleman and diligent knights. During my brief occupancy as your philanthropy chairman, I have already led, organized, and planned many service events.

With the assistance of the Streetdog Foundation, Sigma Nu and the AOII sorority cohosted an incredibly successful pet show. All the proceeds from the event went towards the Foundation's mission of rescuing and rehabilitating stray and abandoned dogs in the city of Memphis. This Spring, our brothers and candidates have gone on multiple trips to the Shelby Farms Greenline: a community built and maintained pedestrian path and urban greenspace. In recent years, stretches of the Greenline has been overgrown and covered in litter. With the assistance of those community members that maintain the Greenline, our brotherhood has engaged in multiple clean-ups. We are looking forward to our continued work with these small nonprofits along with the many others serving the city of Memphis.

This year, our brotherhood has decided that our efforts should be focused on a single organization partnered with the Helping Hand of Sigma Nu. This new focus is Saint Jude Children's Research Hospital, a local organization whose mission is to ensure that no child be denied treatment based on race, religion, or the family's ability to pay.

In accordance with this vision, our brotherhood is in the process of organizing our annual Spring Luau with Rhodes College's Tri Delta sorority. As always, there will be live music, games, and our famous crawfish boil. We are also assisting the Chi Omega sorority in their efforts with the Make-A-Wish Foundation, to grant a wish for a child in Memphis. These two projects are just the beginning of our efforts to help the children of Memphis.

I am excited for this upcoming semester and the challenges that come with it. Our fraternity will continue to maintain this standard of excellence in all of our future community endeavors.

Fraternally,

Luke Staffelbach