

THE

BALL STATE UNIVERSITY

FALL 2021



IRIS

EPSILON MU CHAPTER

GIVING BACK FOR BROTHERS AND SONS

Chapter Advisor Andy Yakubik '90 Shares His Hopes for Epsilon Mu

Andy Yakubik '90 saw an opportunity to give back to Epsilon Mu Chapter when his son, **Alec Yakubik '22**, also pledged Delt at Ball State. Andy could see the chapter was struggling and was motivated to jump in and help by becoming the chapter advisor.

Andy is excited to help shape the future for Epsilon Mu. He looks forward to highlighting the benefits he experienced as an active member, like bonding with his brothers in service and sharing experiences. Plus, the chapter's history of success and ability to offer a well-rounded college experience is what sets Epsilon Mu apart from other fraternities.

"With technology making people feel more socially isolated, you could argue the fraternity has an even more important role in today's college environment," Andy said. "The pandemic only made things more challenging."

Giving back was an easy decision for Andy. Throughout his time as an active member, Andy credits every brother he interacted with as having helped shaped him in one way or another.

"It exposed me to differing backgrounds and ways of thinking," Andy said. "It also



Andy Yakubik '90 with sons Drew '20 (left) and Alec '22 (right).

ignited a strong call to service. I have a lot of fun memories, especially our 'work hard, play hard' mentality."

Andy remains grateful for those before him who created a strong foundation and those after him who will continue working hard and keeping the chapter strong. Andy encourages all alumni to lend a hand to Epsilon Mu.

"As an alum ... honestly, I enjoy little moments around the Shelter when I'm there, like time with the undergraduates or helping

to maintain things," Andy said. "We could use more alumni involvement, especially from recent grads that the undergraduates can more relate to. If you're willing to help, please reach out."

Aside from being a chapter advisor, Andy works in IT. He played soccer until an ACL injury forced retirement and coached high school soccer for 15 years until recently stepping down. Now he plays, collects, and moderates forums for vintage bass guitar as well as other volunteering to help improve his local community.

"I am still called to service, most recently leading successful local school district referendums last year," Andy said.

Andy and his college sweetheart, Anne, have two sons. Alec now lives in the same room at the Shelter as Andy once did: old house Room 4. Andy's older son, **Drew Yakubik '20**, became a Delt at Purdue in 2016 and graduated this past year. Even with a full plate, Andy manages to take time to unwind, even it's an occasional beer and cigar on his deck to help him unwind. You can contact Andy at andy@yakubik.com.

ENRICHING THE LIVES OF DELTS

Help Us Reconnect with Brothers Who Have Drifted Away

We recently restored and mounted several composites dating back to the founding of Epsilon Mu. As I walk down the hallways and stand in the Klinge Lounge and look at those many faces, I reflect upon the boys who entered the Shelter and left as men.

Because of our relative youth, we are fortunate to have some of our founding members still with us, and I, for one, am fortunate to have been enriched by having many of them as part of my life. Their influence and guidance have benefited me

personally and professionally. I am most honored, however, to have been able to apply their wisdom and loyalty within the Shelter walls and have tried to share the same with our membership over the years.

But, as I reflect upon the growing number of men who have stepped through our doors and gaze upon the many characters appearing in those composites, I am saddened to observe the growing number of members who we have lost. Certainly, some have graduated to the Chapter Eternal,

and their memories will always live with us; however, many have drifted away instead. I take great solace knowing that many of the lessons they learned through their involvement with both our ritual and their service has made them better men. I occasionally hear from some of those long-separated brethren and am warmed by their personal successes—it warms my Delt soul.

Perhaps I'm getting a bit melancholy as I traverse the purple haze of manhood, but
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ENRICHING THE LIVES OF DELTS

(Continued from page 1)

I realize that those who have drifted away could benefit our young proteges immensely. Surely we all know of some of our brethren with whom the chapter has lost contact and who have much they can share with our undergraduate membership. I invite you all to visit the Shelter and meet our newest members.

I also challenge you to seek out those within your sphere, either geographically or chronologically, and invite them to reconnect. At the very least, ask that they let us know how we can get issues of the *Iris* to them and keep them apprised with undergraduate and alumni activities going forward.

I have been blessed to be able to watch friendships being forged among our growing membership over the years. I have seen how members continue to associate with their cohorts despite the separations that life presents. I know you, too, have benefited from those friendships cast in your formative years at BSU and Epsilon Mu. If you would like to share your experience with our newest members, please contact me at jknox@bsudelts.org. Or, if you are aware of one of our brethren who would like to reconnect, please share my email address with them. Let them know that we miss them.

Fraternally,
John Knox '78
 House Corporation Secretary
jrknox@bsu.edu

With campus back to normal at Ball State University, Epsilon Mu Chapter has restored traditions and participated in school events that many of our members have not been able to experience. Watermelon Bust with Alpha Chi Omega, Homecoming with Delta Zeta, and in-person recruitment have restored or introduced the college experience to the members of Delta Tau Delta at Ball State.

The annual philanthropy event, Watermelon Bust, returned this year, and we continued the tradition of hosting this event with Alpha Chi Omega. We had a record-breaking number of 100 pre-sign up teams. Bust took place on September 11, and we had a local fire department stop by for a moment of silence to honor the lives lost in those devastating events.

The games for this event included a dunk tank, watermelon slip and slide, tug of war, relay races, trash can pong, and a DJ for extra energy. We successfully raised over \$11,000, and our proceeds will be going to JDRF, which is our national philanthropic partner that supports juvenile type 1 diabetes. Epsilon Mu Chapter completed over 500 service hours for this event, and we really appreciate all the help and support from alumni with Bust.

"Watermelon Bust was an extraordinary success coming out of the pandemic. It was a day filled with fun and lasting memories. Of course, none of this would be possible without our sponsors and alumni," **Oliver Deck '23**, internal vice president, said. "It was a blast working with Alpha Chi Omega, and they did a tremendous job helping out. I'd like to give a special thanks to **Wade Baertschi '11** for all of his time and effort that went into making this an amazing event."

Epsilon Mu Chapter has taken initiative to increase the overall GPA for the chapter this fall. The IFC ranking will be released at the end of the semester, and we are anticipating improvement from previous semesters. In order to improve,

RESTORING

Epsilon Mu Brothers Emb

we have implemented mandatory study tables for active members throughout the week.

With campus back to normal, recruitment was a success. Recruitment week was engaging; the campus was more organized with in-person events happening. We had 19 men accept bids and 17 recently became active members of the Epsilon Mu Chapter. New members were also required to attend study tables at both the library and the Shelter, where they could ask brothers for help in their classes.

"I think the recruitment process went pretty well. This fall, we collected a great group of guys that like to get out and get active within our fraternity and on campus," **Corey Sims '23**, pledge educator, said.

"The recruitment process went well this year; numbers were up and guys were involved. We were finally able to host in-person events instead of having recruitment over Zoom, which was an amazing experience," **Tanner Williams '24**, recruitment chairman, said. "This group of guys are well-rounded men who are leaders and trendsetters, and I am very excited to see them excel in the house and in school!"

We paired with Delta Zeta for fall Homecoming 2021 and it was an event-packed week; Monday was speed dating, Tuesday was pumpkin carving, Wednesday was a cookout and basketball, and Thursday was Air Jam! The Air Jam team was amazing, but we sadly lost by eight votes. We hosted a final party Friday night and tailgated at the game on Saturday.

Campus and outside organization involvement took an outstanding turn this semester. More than 10 members joined the golf club.



Delta Tau Delta worked alongside Alpha Chi Omega to host the 48th annual Watermelon Bust Festival. It certainly wasn't a bust and everyone had a fantastic time supporting good causes!



TRADITIONS

race Campus Involvement



It was wonderful for parents to join us for some food and fun at our Parent's Weekend tailgate on September 25.



Epsilon Mu brothers had a blast at our Homecoming tailgate on October 23.



We enjoyed a day of pumpkin carving with Delta Zeta.

Members are active in econ and finance clubs, and we have four members in Order of Omega. Unfortunately, our most popular intramural sport, basketball, was not offered this semester due to COVID-19. We were counting on bringing a championship to the chapter, but hopefully it will be back in the spring.

We want to thank alumni and parents for all their support over the past 18 months. It is always a great time having you on campus and spending time with you during Homecoming and Parent's Weekend. We truly can't thank you enough for your involvement and how much it helps us succeed. Your support and advice continues the legacy of this prestigious fraternity.

It has been a relief to be able to host events and create connections in person this semester. Having traditions back, like Watermelon Bust and Homecoming, are memories that last forever for college students. We look forward to electing our new executive leadership this November to help lead us to continued success and gain amazing experience while doing so.

Fraternally,
Nate Sink '23
 Chapter President
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DELTA TAU DELTA

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External Vice President and House Manager

Alec Schultz '23

Treasurer

Cade Howard '23

Corresponding Secretary

Lorenzo Ferraro '23

Recording Secretary

Joe Karl '24

Risk Manager

Zachary Lee '23

Recruitment Chairman

Tanner Williams '24

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Academic Chairman

Cole Dunham '23

New Member Educator

Corey Sims '23

Ritualist

Aidan Minch '24

Sergeant-at-Arms

Charlie Hoyt '23

Social Chairman

Carson Sanders '24

WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS

Luke Barnes '25
 Noblesville, Ind.

Dylan Clark '25
 Alexandria, Ind.

Thomas Hancock '25
 Plainfield, Ind.

Kade Lewin '25
 McCordsville, Ind.

Easton Strassburger '25
 Fort Wayne, Ind.

Aiden Battles '25*
 Greenfield, Ind.
 (Brother **Anthony Battles '22**)

Nathaniel Dunica '24
 Winchester, Ind.

Max Hern '25
 Fishers, Ind.
 (Grandfather **Jack Hern 'YR**
 and Father **Jeff Hern '92**)

Cameron Lusby '25
 Indianapolis, Ind.

Maddox Tavernier '25
 Fishers, Ind.

Bryce Beery '25
 Carmel, Ind.

Zachary Fessel '25
 Cicero, Ind.

Chase Johnson '25
 Indianapolis, Ind.

Hunter Salem '25
 Frankfort, Ind.

Donovan Trew '25
 Cicero, Ind.

Jake Fitzgerald '25
 Carmel, Ind.

Ethan Smith '24
 Connersville, Ind.

*Legacy

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THE BEST FRATERNITY FOR ME

Marc Galvin '75 Reflects on How Epsilon Mu Shaped Him

When I arrived at Ball State in the fall of 1971, I had no interest in joining a fraternity. My orientation leader, though, was Delta Tau Delta President **Jim Reed '73**, and thankfully, he was persistent over the next year. I learned that Delta Tau Delta was not only the best fraternity at Ball State, but also the best fraternity for me. It had student leaders, athletes, musicians, scholars, and some not-so-scholars. These brothers went on to become pastors, police officers, physicians, government administrators, small-business owners, teachers, school leaders, college administrators, professors, and other professionals. Who knew? When a Delt little sister told me that the Ball State Admissions Office was looking for a student worker, how could I have known that job would lead to my career of over 40 years?

I was privileged to be a pledge with **Dennis May '75**, who was later the Epsilon Mu president, **Brad Lykins '75**, **Mike Lovell '75**, and **Dave Rayl '75**. The active brothers said that we had an attitude. We did. As the "Good Times," the Delt basketball second team, we were chastised for winning too many games. Yes, there are other stories.

As a project for an educational psychology class, I rewrote our Delt pledge program. Its



emphases were "the education of youth and the inspiration of maturity." Most aspects of hazing were eliminated. As vice president of pledge education, I recognized that some of the "Old Guard" thought the new program for pledges was too easy, but I believe that Epsilon Mu was ahead of the curve in pledge education and that our chapter was stronger because of it.

Former International President **Jody Danneman '88** was president of Beta Delta at

the University of Georgia when I was chapter advisor there. I am proud of him and the work that he has done on behalf of Delta Tau Delta.

Although I worked other student affairs positions at Ivy Tech-South Bend and the University of Georgia, my longest tenure was as director of student affairs and registrar at the UGA School of Law for about 25 years. I may have threatened, but never actually placed, a law student or student organization on double-secret probation. I retired a few years ago from UGA but teach history part time for Piedmont University.

The Institute of Higher Education at the University of Georgia attracted me to Georgia as a doctoral student 42 years ago, and I never imagined that I would still be here. However, during graduate school, I met my wife of 38 years. She was an Alpha Phi at Ball State, but we met at UGA when she was in graduate school as well. She is also retired from UGA. We have three grown sons and three small grandchildren. We are both active in our church and presbytery, and I am involved in some historical associations.

I have been proud to be a Delt for 48 years and counting, and I still believe in Delta Tau Delta.

You can connect with Marc at magalvin@uga.edu.