

Spring 2003



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Upsilon Xi Presents Ceremonial Mace To Lee University

A ceremonial mace, the gift of the Upsilon Xi Alumni Association to Lee University, will be used for the first time in academic processional events of the May graduation, according to Joe Giove, president of the association.

The mace is a 54-inch wooden staff, dark in color, with a simple golden orb near the top that bears the name of the university and its founding date, topped by a replica of the university seal. The staff is adorned with intertwined cords, one set of maroon and white representing Lee's colors and one set of black and gray, representing the donor organization.

The use of the ceremonial mace in academic settings is traced back to the 1300s, when the device was first used to represent the authority of the degree-granting institution. Most universities now use a mace, and it is normally borne by the faculty marshal at the head of the colorful academic procession.

The gift was paid for by donations from 72 alumni members of Upsilon Xi. It is being shipped from the artisans at Josten's in

Del City, Oklahoma, just in time for the graduation ceremony. A formal presentation involving alumni and current club members will be scheduled later. *List of Donors is on page 8.*



The Black & Gray

A Newsletter for Upsilon Xi Alumni & Friends

Birth of a Legacy

Duran Palmertree, a faculty member at the time Upsilon Xi was initiated at Lee and the club's first president, has written a detailed account of the first days of its official existence. The document will find a prized place in Upsilon archives. Space does not permit its full printing here, but an abbreviated version follows. Bill George and Ted Gee, among the original members of the Spokes, have added to the account.

The hot, sweaty days of the summer of 1962 saw frequent gatherings of a group of four friends on the front porch of Medlin Hall, known then as Walker Hall. Duane Lambert, a Floridian who stayed in Cleveland because of his job, Dale Huff, a local student, Jim Hubbard, editor for the coming year's Vindagua, and Mr. Palmertree enjoyed afternoon conversations about school and common interests. Palmertree was faculty sponsor for the yearbook.

Two of the students had been among the organizers of an informal club called the Spokes in February of 1961. Unrecognized by the college, the Spokes met regularly, participated in a couple of service projects, and generally enjoyed

each others' company. Two of the other Spokes were transfer students who had been part of fraternities at their schools and the group had talked of a desire to replicate the fraternity experience at Lee.

The students found their champion in Palmertree.

The group anticipated antipathy or rejection by the college administration, but they talked through some of the anticipated difficulties and ways of addressing them. Among their conclusions, largely prompted by Palmertree, was a proposal to make the club service-based and to stress academic excellence.

When school began in September, the discussions moved from Walker Hall to the Student Center, located at the time on the first floor of East Wing. The four talked up their idea, gathered the other Spokes and invited interested students, and began meeting on Tuesday nights.

"We were committed to the basic idea of developing a culture of excellence involving men bound together in Christian love, centering around the non-



Upsilon Xi 1964



negotiables of strong fellowship, extensive service and solid academic expectations," Palmertree remembers.

The group charged Jim Hubbard with the formation of the first constitution. (Huff was also asked to write an alternative document in case the first one was rejected. Happily it never had to be used.)

The students prevailed on Palmertree to represent them in presenting the proposal for the organization to be known as Upsilon Xi, along with the constitution, to Dr. Ray H. Hughes, Lee president. Certain provisions had to be met, but Hughes gave his nod. Upsilon was born!

The first officers were elected immediately. Palmertree was named president, Dale Huff vice president, Duane Lambert secretary-treasurer, and Billy O'Neal chaplain. Jim Hubbard and Richard

Goodman visited Hardwick's Men's Store, the outlet for a local clothing manufacturer, and brought back ideas for distinctive garb, and the club selected gray pants and black blazers as their outfit of choice.

Over the years Upsilon Xi has altered much of its constitution and bylaws as need and custom has dictated. The club has never deviated, however, from its first goals: strong fellowship, meaningful service and academic excellence. Its legacy is a long line of some 600 brothers of Black and Gray and their Little Sisters who have brought distinction to the campus while they were members and have continued a commitment to fellowship and service upon leaving Lee. All hail to Upsilon!

Lessons from a "Secret Society"?



At various times during the storied history of Upsilon Xi, the charge of "secret society" has been attributed to the men of Black and Gray. Perhaps it's the clandestine nature of our induction process, our members-only meetings or the esoteric way we refer to the mystery of "Hickory." Whatever the reason, all Greek clubs at Lee have to put up with this ridiculous charge at one time or another. It's a humorous accusation (Upsilon is far from a "secret society") that always ends with an accurate reaffirmation of the Greek system, and the valuable social and service role it plays at Lee University.

Although Upsilon is grossly unlike these societies in almost every way, we could stand to be more like many of them in one key aspect: current members frequently call on their alumni for help when getting their careers started.

Some of us have done a decent job in this area, but I believe our organization can do a much better job in the future, and I want to make this the number one priority of my presidency. It will take a significant change in culture to accomplish this goal, but I have complete confidence that we will do it.

When a Upsilon man is looking for a job, he should have resources and contacts out in the world who can help him get a start. One of his first thoughts should be, "Are there any Upsilon alumni who may be able to help me?" Many careers require a key contact or two to get a "foot in the door" and we have prominent alumni in every major career field. Why should we fail to take advantage

of these contacts?

Many of us have already benefited from the assistance of more established alumni. I will never forget how my friend Tom Johnson frequently commented at length on the vital role Keith Jeffords played in his career and life. However, such relationships should be the norm and not the exception. I believe the main reason we fail to create these kind of mentoring relationships is because we are unaware who our contacts are, and how we can help or be helped by them. The Upsilon Web site has been a good resource in the past, but there is a need for something more.

My next major initiative as president will be the creation of a practical tool (possibly a handbook and/or a new Web site initiative) to be used primarily by Upsilon's juniors, seniors, and recent graduates to assist them in making connections with prominent alumni in their chosen fields. This tool will also assist alumni in connecting with each other. As we continue to do a better job of connecting Upsilon members and alumni, the ripple effects of this greater interaction will keep Upsilon on top for many years.

I know I can count on all of you to assist and support the UXAA as we attempt to better serve the current members. Sometimes we learn lessons from the strangest sources. After all, we are not "Skull & Bones," but "Black & Gray," and when you think about it . . . it's just another facet of Hickory.

— Joe Giove
Alumni Association President



From the Alumni Coordinator The Heritage continues...

"Heritage"... Upsilon was founded some 41 years ago. Being Alumni Coordinator, I have been able to meet many Upsilon alumni. I do not know where this club would be without our great past. I apologize for the broadness of this little note (I wish I could personalize it), but I would really like to thank each and every one of you who worked to make Upsilon the great club it is today.

Of all the other clubs, Upsilon reigns supreme. But what is it that makes Upsilon the best club on campus? I know—and I'm sure you do as well—that Upsilon sponsors the best events on and off campus. Upsilon has the most successful alumni. Dr. Paul Conn has stated, "It is an unquestionable fact that the men of Upsilon Xi have produced more leading ministers among our denomination, more doctors in the medical and academic field, and more success stories within the world of business than any other club, choir, or organization on the Lee College campus."

Upsilon is a club of leaders. Upsilon has a reputation for being the intellectuals of the Greek system. Upsilon frequently dominates in every intramural sport. Upsilon is respected by the administration, faculty, students and other Greek Clubs. Upsilon currently has 2 gentlemen for DZT, 6 big brothers for SNS, 2 big brothers for ELF, and 5 big brothers for WAF.

These are all great things, but I don't think this is what makes Upsilon the best club on campus. To me what makes Upsilon great is the lessons all of us have learned in the woods and the life-long friendships we have made and will continue to make.

I challenge you live out what you learned in the woods. A story: Ever since I was a little kid, my dad (also a Upsilon man) has always told me to 'go the extra mile.' I had always wondered about his obsession of going the extra mile. After going to the woods, I realized what he had been talking about all those years. And seeing it in such applicable way really changed me. I challenge you to not forget the woods. I will cherish it the rest of my life.

Also I implore you to stay in touch with the friends you made while in the club. Upsilon facilitates creating life-long friendships. I will treasure the friendships I've made. If you need someone's address or number don't hesitate to give us or the Lee University Alumni Office a call. We currently have more than 500 Upsilon alumni on record (and it's as up to date as we can make it).

Once again I want to thank you for the club you have left us. I'm serious when I say this—I wish I could meet each and every one of you. As Alumni Coordinator, my job is to serve you, so if you need anything don't hesitate to give me a call at 801-628-3224.

-Hickory
BJ Johnson



Membership in Upsilon Xi holds great responsibilities, opportunities, and privileges. The most honorable privilege for me was being selected as Upsilon's 46th President and having the chance to represent Upsilon during its 40th anniversary. I am proud to say that the club still holds true to the tradition in which it was founded, "Service and Fellowship."

We currently have an active membership of 56 men, 6 Little Sisters, and one beautiful Sweetheart (who placed first in the Miss Cleveland Pageant and third in Lee University's Parade of Favorites). We continue our weekly meetings every Tuesday night at 9:00 p.m. on the third floor of Walker Memorial. To increase our dedication to Christian brotherhood, Upsilon sets aside one weekend a month for a club night out, and one Sunday a month to attend church together at Westmore Church of God.

This year, as in past years, Upsilon welcomed students back at our annual Block Party, hosted by current president Jonny Moore. Many students flooded the Pedestrian Mall to see old friends while Upsilon entertained them with music, talent, games, contests, and prizes.

In late October, hundreds of students packed the hills of Dr. O' Bannon's farm for Sadie Hawkins, which was themed, "He may not be Mr. Right, but he's Mr. Tonight!" Plenty of chicken and cans of soda was ordered for the biggest attendance seen in years. A live band played throughout the event while a photographer made his way around the bonfires taking pictures of each couple. The dean of students, Alan McClung, stopped by and remarked to Bill George and me, "Sadie's is the best social event we have at Lee." The night ended with an elaborate fireworks display that some said was more extravagant than the city of Cleveland's 4th of July event.

Upsilon Xi started as a service club, and we still continue that tradition today. Continued service includes volunteering at the Boys and Girls Club of Cleveland on Thursday afternoons, a Bible study called "Yielded" every other Thursday night, and many Upsilon members do child mentoring on their own as well as provide tutoring opportunities for other students. We helped with painting at Westmore Church of God and worked on the youth room at East Cleveland Church of God. Several Upsilon men went to Knoxville and helped construct a church for pastor Steven Smith, and distributed food to the needy for Thanksgiving. For Campus Wide Service Day, the club went to the Bachman Home to help with construction and painting. Recently we had a work day at the Smoky Mountain Home for Children.

Tradition not only pertains to knowing where Upsilon Xi originated, but understanding the direction Upsilon Xi was intended to go. The club has strived to continue down the path that was set before it 41 years ago. Although the school and its policies have indeed changed, one fact remains the same... Upsilon Xi is a Christian brotherhood guided by Jesus Christ and focused on "Service and Fellowship."

-Derek Smith
Big Rim 46

September 26, 1962



Upsilon Xi 1962
Duran Palmertree, President



Upsilon Xi 1967
David McClure, President

20'S

Memories from the 70's

During the 1970's Upsilon Xi was strong for a number of reasons. One of those reasons was our respect for the Upsilon heritage we had been given from the founders of organization in the 1960's. We knew of the history of the Spokes and the Wheel, of Duran Palmertree and the other founders of the club, and we were determined to continue the strong history of the Black and Gray that had been given to us. We were also strong because of the leadership of the club during that decade. The presidents (such as Loran Livingston, Terry Patrick, Michael O'Neal, Perry Gambrell, Jerald Smith, Johnny Bunch and Guy Glass) and other officers were men of character and purpose whose leadership in word and personal example inspired others of us to follow the example they provided.

During the 1970's the men of Upsilon Xi were respected on the Lee College campus as men of

Christian character and actions. We were respected on the basketball court as well as softball and flag football fields as competitive, outstanding athletes. We usually won first place in those athletic events. And if we didn't win, our competitors knew that we had fought hard and well.

Individual Upsilon men were leaders on campus during the '70's. For example, Dan Boling was awarded the Zeno C. Tharpe award in 1970. Mike Chapman('73) and Robert Herron('77) were awarded the Bible Division Award. Mark Smiling was the Student Body President in 1979. A number of men and Little Sisters were listed in *Who's Who Among American Colleges and Universities*. These included Sonia Lane, James Lewis, Robert Herron, Keith Munford, Steve Bates, Harold Franks, Bobby Johnson, Jamey Camak, Steve Dorman, and Bill Henning. A number of Upsilon men excelled on the basketball court for the Lee College Vikings/Flames,

including Larry Carpenter, Danny Moore and Paul Dana Walker.

The men of Upsilon had a lot of fun, too. We enjoyed the activities of the annual Sadie Hawkins Hay Ride. During our annual Spring Banquet we celebrated the successes of the year and the relationships we had formed with one another. The most fun we had was probably around induction. Most of us enjoyed inducting new members and we even have some fun memories regarding our own inductions. Drinking buttermilk and crawling through an ice-cold creek, in retrospect was a lot of fun.

I feel very proud and thankful to claim that I am an alumnus of Upsilon Xi. The friends that I made while in Upsilon and opportunity to wear the Upsilon Black and Gray are some of the most valued treasures, not only of my years at Lee College, but in all of my life. "All hail to Upsilon. Steadfast and Strong".

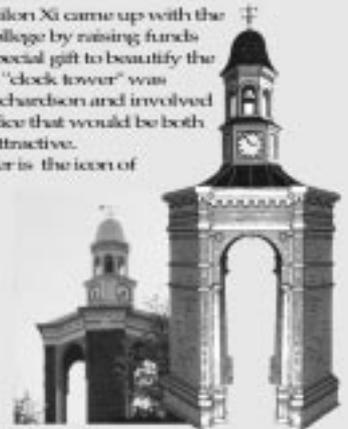
— Keith Mumford

Upsilon Xi 1986
David Blair, President



In the fall of 1989, Upsilon Xi came up with the idea of serving Lee College by raising funds for the building of a special gift to beautify the campus. The idea of a "clock tower" was proposed by Mitch Richardson and involved the building of an edifice that would be both functional as well as attractive. By 1997, the clock tower is the icon of Lee University.

Fall 1989 Upsilon Xi Tap



90's



Upsilon Xi 1972

Loran Livingston, President

Memories from the 80's

Those of us who were members of Upsilon in the 80s believe we experienced a "golden age" of Upsilon, building on the heritage of the first 20 years and setting precedent for those who would follow.

It was the decade of big projects. In 1987 we ran a 126-mile relay marathon from Cleveland to Atlanta, earning a whopping \$12,600 for an ambitious church-planting project in that city. We started the work toward the Clock Tower, raising the first third of the money that would be finalized in five years under the leadership of later presidents and sponsor Bill Winters.

It was an era of strong presidents, beginning with Keith Jeffords in 1980 and ending with Tony Byrd in 1989, with Randy O'Bannon, Mark Pitts, Ben Johnson, Ken and Tim Stone, David Blair, Kevin Landreth, Mike Moore, Alan Hall, Brian Yaun and Joel Bridges in between.

It was a decade of "firsts": first Block Party, first induction chairman, first induction binder, first Big Brother ceremony, first Bill George Award, first Bill Helton Award, first alumni coordinator, first historian, first Alumnus of the Year Award, first student project over \$10,000.

Induction retreats were all over the map during the 80s, including the famous Polk County 4-H Camp, the Lookout Mountain site that still boasts the highest hickory, the Alabama camp that almost didn't have a hickory, a place lost in the woods in McMinn County and who knows where else. (Someone finally learned that if you left a place clean, they would let you come back next year!)

Upsilon dominated intramural sports in the 80s with numerous championships, led the campus with four different student body presidents, won six different academic department awards, placed 15 members in Who's Who, provided winners for Parade of Favorites three times and generally kicked butt in every field.

More important than all the bragging rights, however, are the abiding friendships, the satisfaction of being servants and the memories of a decade of splendid accomplishments. All hail to Upsilon!

—Wayne Slocumb

Upsilon Xi 1995
c Diggs, President



Spring 1998 Retreat Spring 2000 Upsilon Xi Tap



80's



Upsilon Xi 1980

Keith Jeffords, President

Memories from the 90's

My first memories of Upsilon are the guys who made me want to be a part of it, men like Matt Hanrahan, Matt Brumlow, Gil Medina, Kyle Wyndam, and the list goes on. Then came the block party which the entire campus it seemed attended, everyone wanted to wear that jersey.

Tap night was so cold that snow was on the ground. I remember the excitement during induction but mostly the feeling of wearing a jersey for the first time on a Tuesday and sitting together in chapel. My best memories are of the woods, taking the inductees to McDonald's on the way and enjoying them make fun of us, roughing it in the woods and hanging out after the inductees went to bed, and my first "hill" as the president.

I still think of induction every time I smell a campfire. I remember Upsilon night out and meeting in front of the old Higginbotham building, dominating Chi in intramurals, I will forever be a proud part of "C" team. I remember Upsilon Midnight bowling with Chat Jacobs to raise money, chopping wood for Sadies and how Jobe West would stay after everyone else went home, playing V-Ball for Upsilon with Tanner McFall, meeting with the Sublimes, devotions with Jason Stephens, Chad Hall and Todd Bryant staying up late with me to work on club stuff, the 35th anniversary bash done by Trace Colson, brainstorming on how to make the best induction better, inducting my little brother, volunteering with the club at the Boys and Girls Club.

One of my deepest memories was looking at the last person I ever put through induction and being heart broken that I would never do it again. But what I remember most was being part of something special that everyone else wanted to be a part of. Upsilon men stood apart from the other clubs in everything they did. We stood for something more than just a jersey. My seven semesters in Upsilon helped make me what I am today, and I'll forever be grateful for that.

— David Scisciani

2000



Sightseeing "a hill" 2003



B.J. Seifrit, Cameron Jones, Jake Jeffords, Nik White, Josh Childers, Caleb Dawson, Jason Butler, Josh Herring, Seth LaMagna, B.J. Johnson, Austin Davis



Upsilon Xi IN FOCUS

Recent Pictures of Upsilon



Upsilon Xi Softball



Upsilon hanging out



Upsilon Xi Homecoming Booth



Calender of Events

- Block Party - August 19
- Retreat "The Woods" - August 29-30
- Sadie Hawkins - October 25
- Homecoming Breakfast - November 8



Posing could be an Olympic event in Upsilon





The New Guys and Broads 2002-2003

Upsilon Xi has always been known as a very diverse club. The last two semesters saw 3 little sisters and 16 new members, each individual bringing unique and diverse qualities to the organization.

In the fall 2002 semester Upsilon tapped Katie McNeely and Brooke Murray as little sisters. Katie McNeely is a junior psychology major from Drexel, NC. She serves on the Student Leadership Council (the student government) as the co-sponsored activities chair. She is also a member of Delta Zeta Tau. Brooke Murray is a junior education major from Ninety-Six, SC. She is also a member of Delta Zeta Tau.

Eight men earned the privilege of being Upsilon men. Frankie Cancel is a business administration major from Tampa, FL. Casey Gallaher is a physical education major from Cleveland, TN and is married to Hollie Gallaher. Jonathan Gammill is a sophomore double major in computer information systems

and pastoral ministry. Sean Gentner is a junior business administration major from Senia, GA.

Josh Herring is a pastoral ministry major from Seneca, SC. He is a member of the National Guard and can smash a softball. Kyle Morrow is a pastoral ministry major from Adairsville, GA. Adam Noe is a senior communications major from Morristown, TN. BJ Seifrit is a senior history major from Harrisburg, PA.

In spring 2003, Upsilon tapped Hollie Gallaher as a little sister. She is from Cleveland, TN and is married to Casey Gallaher. She is a member of Epsilon Lambda Phi and plays on the Lady Flames softball team.

Again eight new members were allowed the honor of being in Upsilon. Chevis Brooks is a sophomore pastoral ministry major from Belton, SC. He can cream a softball. Caleb Dawson is a physical education major from Douglas, GA. He too can cream a softball. Hermilo Jasso is a freshman double major in business and political science from Cleveland, TN. He is a member of

the Student Leadership Council and also a member of the freshman honor corps.

Clayton Montgomery is a junior accounting major from Cleveland, TN. Dine Patterson is a junior psychology major from Stuarts Draft, VA. He works with backyard ministries, which helps tutor kids. Justin Phillips is a sophomore business major from Cincinnati, OH, and is related to Carroll, Kevin and Phillip Landreth and Josh Phillips.

Mike Stanch is a junior business administration major from Roseville, MI. Rich Wilkerson is a freshman from Miami, FL. He started and heads up a youth ministry called 'Bread Ministries' and has his own show on Trinity Broadcasting Network.



From the Chaplain

By Kris Butz

It has been an honor to serve Upsilon as chaplain. I believe this semester has been a tremendous time of change and renewal in our club. We always talk about growing spiritually and seeing God move, and it is sometimes said that we plant seeds and may never see the growth. This semester it was my desire to see our club bear fruit, for each man and woman to see and know that God was here and active in our brotherhood. I believe we were able to experience that every week, either in meeting or in the prayer meeting that followed.

A passage of Scripture that has stood out to me this semester has been Jeremiah 29:11, 13, "For I

know the plans that I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, to give you a hope and a future . . . You will seek God and find him, when you seek him with all of your heart."

Often we repeat the first verse and expect something to happen, but we leave out the important part, the part that requires us to take action. We need to seek after God, and do it with all our heart.

Let me finish with this: a Upsilon man is first a man of God. The blessing that comes from that relationship makes this an incredible brotherhood.

The
**Black
& Gray**
A Newsletter for Upsilon Xi Women & Friends

Editor

B.J. Johnson

Alumni Officers

Joe Glove, President

Bill Winters, Vice President

Bill George, Secretary

Nick Humble, Treasurer

The Black & Gray Design By
Wayne Slocumb

The Upsilon Xi Alumni Association was founded in 1998 as an extension of the brotherhood of Upsilon Xi of Lee University. The association exists to glorify God by fostering a cooperative and closer relationship among its members; initiating educational, research and other programs for the benefit of its members; and undertaking fund-raising and other philanthropic activities for the benefit of Lee University, Upsilon Xi and other needs.

Annual dues are \$20 and help fund the newsletter,
Web site (www.upsilonxi.com) and projects of Upsilon Xi.

TE

The Black & Gray
Published by Upsilon Xi





Alumni Association

The Alumni Association would like to thank you for your continued support. But publications, events and service activities need your help. Through Upsilon Xi a tax-free donation can be given to fund these activities. Go to the Web site www.upsilonxi.com and use your credit card to pay annual dues of \$20 or any other contribution you would like to make.



Membership has its privileges

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**The
Black
& Gray**
A Newsletter for Upsilon Xi Alumni & Friends

Mace Donors

Thanks to the following Upsilon alumni members who took part in the fund drive to raise money for the ceremonial mace.

Fifty Friends of Upsilon (\$100 or more)

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