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Zeta Lambda Alumni

# Zeta Lambda Alumni Newsletter

November 2013

Issue No. 8

## Homecoming Alumni BBQ 2013



On Saturday November 2nd, the alumni of the Zeta Lambda chapter, as well as family and friends convened on the TU campus to tailgate and cheer on the Golden Hurricane football team. Unfortunately, the football team came up on the short end of the 34 to 15 score.

The day started out a bit on the cold side, but as the day went on the temperature became more manageable.

Luckily for all those in attendance, we had cold drinks and plenty of delicious food catered in by the Burn Co. BBQ.

*Returning Zeta Lambda Chapter to Campus.* Initial discussions with both the University and Sigma Nu National are now underway to reopen Zeta Lambda chapter. Although still in the early stages, discussions with both appear very positive. As the discussions progress, we will keep everyone updated.

**Low Badge this year went to ZA 221 Larry Yadon.  
High Badge this year went to ZA 633 Dustin Light.**

We are already working on some ideas to make next years gathering the best ever.

[To see more pictures please go to the Photo Galleries section at [www.TulsaSigmaNu.com](http://www.TulsaSigmaNu.com) ]



## Zeta Lambda Alumni Spotlight—Laurence J. “Larry” Yadon ZA 221



### A Day I Won't Forget.

Most of us shambled into the Oliphant Hall auditorium that bright September morning, trying to appear nonchalant about choices that would affect our college careers and our futures.

My choice led to the smallest frat house at the farthest edge of the main campus. But Sigma Nu was the place that felt most comfortable and welcoming to me, despite a family connection to the Sigma Chi house next door. Perhaps that comfort had something to do with the number of Zeta Lambda brothers who had graduated from one of the two Tulsa high schools I attended. We were a large enough contingent that the house was sometimes called “Sigma Kelley.”

But it was more than that. Even an eighteen-year-old could sense that the Zeta Lambda chapter was a place where fraternity and individuality were seen as compatible, highly desirable qualities. This was no cookie cutter factory for look-alike and think-alike conformists. And that was lucky for me.

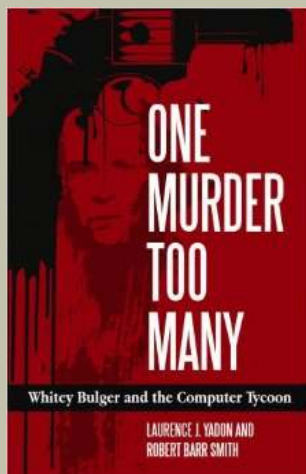
Our pledge trainer Bob Downing spent more than a little time polishing off some of the rough edges I picked up in the back row of the better dressed street gang dramatically embellished in Francis Ford Coppola’s film, *The Outsiders*. From my pledge father Jim Gustine, I learned the value of discipline, leadership and service. From Gary Allison, Vice Dean of the TU College of Law, I learned the importance of scholarship, loyalty and integrity.

And from Sigma Nu itself, I learned the ever enduring importance of Honor.

*Larry served Zeta Lambda as pledge trainer and alumni officer, graduated from the University in 1970, and earned a law degree at the University of Oklahoma in 1974 after brief active duty as a member of the U.S. Army Reserves. He is an emeritus board member of the Parent Child Center of Tulsa, which he served as the first board president. Larry is general counsel of a power marketing agency which delivers wholesale electric power in Oklahoma and the surrounding states. He also mediates and arbitrates labor, employment and construction disputes and serves on the Board of Visitors for the University of Tulsa College of Law Sustainable Energy & Resources Law Program (SERL).*

*He lives in Tulsa, as do two of his three grown children.*

*Larry’s seventh co-authored book, **One Murder Too Many: Whitey Bulger and the Computer Tycoon** about the notorious May 27, 1981 assassination of multi-millionaire Roger Wheeler at Southern Hills Country Club in Tulsa will be published in late November 2013. His short story *Blind Spot*, upon which the book was based, may be read on the Web.*



## Zeta Lambda Alumni Spotlight—Jamie Madigan ZA 507 page 1

Hey Sigma Nu folks! I thought we were going to meet up in the front room to head out, but it's been like 20 years and nobody's here so I guess something came up. Also there's no front room anymore.

In the meantime I've been doing some stuff. After graduating in '94 I moved to St. Louis to go to graduate school, where I finally found something to do with my psychology degree: earn another psychology degree. It was a Ph.D. this time, though, so now I can tell people to call me "Dr. Madigan" and be mildly disappointed when they refuse. The specific flavor of my psychology degree is Industrial-Organizational Psychology, which is essentially taking the methods of psychology and applying them to understanding and predicting human behavior in the workplace. My wheelhouse has typically been around developing and managing pre-employment tests and hiring systems. Need to fill a position? I can figure out what knowledge and skills are needed, and how to measure them in your applicants.

While working on the degree I married Geralyn Sommer, who some of you may remember as a TU Kappa Delta and Sigma Nu Little Sis. She says "HI". Then after graduating I decided to take what you could call a career detour --if it's possible to take such a detour before even beginning a career. In 2000, Geralyn and I moved to Orange County, California where I worked for GameSpy Industries, one of those Internet startup companies that was all the rage at the time. I did stuff completely unrelated to my education and previous work experience, but it was a lot of fun and pretty much what you'd expect of a bunch of 20-something year old people who were given a few million by venture capital investors with more cash than discretion.

The Internet tech bubble eventually burst, though, and we moved down to San Diego for a few years before returning to St. Louis to be closer to family and for me to work in the I-O psychology field. During that time Geralyn and I hand crafted two children, both girls currently ages 9 and 6. I'm currently working for the National Archives, a Federal agency, as a Personnel Psychologist. *(cont next page)*



## Zeta Lambda Alumni Spotlight—Jamie Madigan ZA 507 page 2

Like a zombie child, though, my interest in video games never really died. In the last few years I've been combining that with my other great interest: psychology. In my spare time I write about the intersection of those two topics at [www.psychologyofgames.com](http://www.psychologyofgames.com), which has become popular enough to land me a few freelance writing, consulting, and lecture gigs. I'm also trying to get a book on the same topic off the ground. I somehow convinced a non-imaginary literary agent to represent me, and she is currently shopping my book proposal around to publishers. **Fingers crossed.**

Geralyn and I still talk about our years with Sigma Nu, even after all this time. Those were easily the best years of my life so far, and between you and me I don't see anything coming up that would change that. Let's keep in touch on Facebook or Twitter (@JamieMadigan).



## Zeta Lambda Alumni News



On July 8th of this year, brother Steve Roop (ZΛ 534) married Carie Stromblad Roop at Mahekal Beach Resort in Playa del Carmen, Mexico.



Brother Chris Moseley (ZΛ 601) got married on June 2nd, 2012. He and his wife are expecting their first child due December 17th, 2013. Chris started a new job as a fire alarm designer for Power Design in St. Petersburg, Florida.



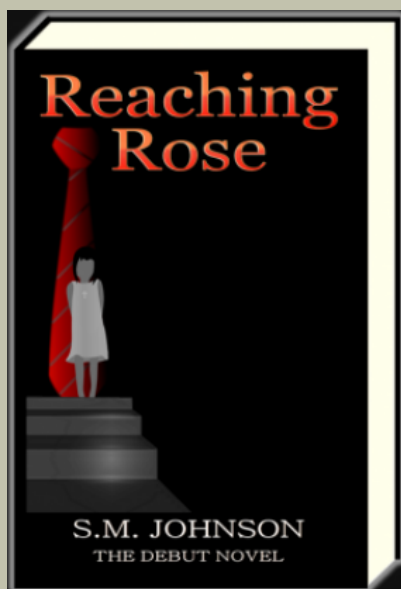
On August 17th, Brother Kelly McDonald (ZΛ 601) graduated from the University of New Mexico Physician Assistant program.

## Zeta Lambda Alumni News

Brother Jay Paonessa (ZΛ 556) was hired as the Creative Director for communications agency Maclyn Group in Lisle, Ill. He joins Maclyn Group from Leo Burnett Group, where he served as a creative director at Arc Worldwide for the past five years.

Earlier this year, brother Matt Horn (ZΛ 606) was promoted from E-5 (Staff Sergeant) to E-6 (Technical Sergeant) in the air force.

Brother Steven Johnson (ZΛ 519) recently published his debut novel Reaching Rose. Steve has generously agreed to donate 100% of proceeds for every sale from today through the end of December. Proceeds are about \$2.50 per book (paperback or e-book) and the e-book is only \$3.99. Before parting with your \$4, you might be thinking, “Would I want to read this?” Well you can visit the books website here: [www.reachingrose.com](http://www.reachingrose.com). You can read the first two chapters for free here: [www.reachingrose.com/read-the-first-two-chapters](http://www.reachingrose.com/read-the-first-two-chapters) or watch the trailer here: [www.reachingrose.com/book-trailer](http://www.reachingrose.com/book-trailer) To reiterate, he’s donating 100% of all sales. So consider buying it for yourself, make some recommendations at work or church, and get a jump on your stocking stuffers.



In July Brother Jim Hicks (ZΛ 528) left his position as Finance Manager at Baker Hughes for a position as Controller at T.D. Williamson in Tulsa, OK.

## Zeta Lambda Alumni News



Brother Antwane Owens (ZΛ 544) was elected to the Collins College of Business Executive Advisory Board and is currently the Vice President at Change Capital.



Congratulations to Brother Frank Mulhern (ZΛ 535), LT Class 33, a 2013 Paragon Winner. He was nominated for his role in the founding of Hardesty Center for Fab Lab Tulsa. *(Brother Mulhern is bottom row, far right)*

## Zeta Lambda Alumni Association

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We're on the web!

[www.tulsasigmanu.com](http://www.tulsasigmanu.com)

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Love, Truth & Honor



### Alumni Giving

Donations can be made to the Zeta Lambda Alumni Association by mail:

**Zeta Lambda Alumni Association**  
545 Parkhurst Drive  
Dallas, TX 75218

Or by Paypal to: [alumni@tulsasigmanu.com](mailto:alumni@tulsasigmanu.com)

Your donations are used by the Alumni Association to host the yearly Alumni BBQ, a Summer Event, our website, and correspondence to the Alumni chapter as a whole.