

NY Epsilon of SIGMA ALPHA EPSILON



Alumni Relations - Andrew Brooks '10

Hello alumni of NY Epsilon! A lot has been happening both on campus and at 12 Myrtle since our last publication. I would like to thank all of our active alumni who continue to contribute in one way or another to our beloved order. On another note, I am proud to say that SAE is currently at the top of the IFC Barker trophy standings for the 2009-2010 season as we seek to continue our reign of the Barker Trophy. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, or would simply like to touch base with the house, please feel free to contact me at alumni.nyep@gmail.com.



Eminent Archon – Steven Knapp '10

School hasn't been in session for a month yet but the Chapter is in full swing. We just wrapped up an initiation week for our fall pledge class and are drawing spring rush to a close as well. We're planning on doing some great brotherhood events this semester including poker tournaments and a whitewater rafting trip. We're also looking forward to an over-the-top Paddy Murphy Week in April and a spring alumni weekend (April 30th-May 2nd). At the pre-semester officer's retreat we evaluated progress on fall semester goals and revised them for the spring semester. This semester we're looking to focus on improving accountability and leadership as well as developing a better understanding of the ritual. At the retreat we compared New York Epsilon's performance from the previous year to that of the top six SAE Chapter in the country in several areas of chapter operations such as alumni programming, out of classroom education, and campus involvement. We found that we are very competitive with these top Chapters, so the officers set goals accordingly in each category to raise our status. If the current newly initiated brothers keep up the same zeal as the older Brothers, the Chapter is well in reach of becoming a top five Chapter in the nation. Hope to see you out for spring alumni weekend.



Rush – Ben Senning '11

Spring Rush kicked off with a trip to a great burrito place, it gave our chapter a chance to gain a look into how rush would go for the semester. We were able to reconnect with interested guys from the fall who weren't able to pledge and get to know new guys who have heard great things about our chapter. The new freshman brothers did an excellent job bringing their friends out to events and remained strong points of contact throughout rush. Spring semester has traditionally been hard because of the limited time in which to hold events. The brotherhood overcame this hurdle with the handing out of 9 bids to outstanding young men that if successful during pledging will make strong additions to our chapter and to Sigma Alpha Epsilon as a whole.



House Manager – John O'Neil '12

The semester has only just begun but work has already started on many projects around the house. At a recent workday we continued the repair and maintenance of the bedroom doors. This included replacing door knobs, filling cracks and rebuilding frames. The leak in the kitchen has been solved and a contract to patch up the ceiling and fix a joist in the floor is currently being wrapped up. Later in the semester the leak that has troubled the second floor landing for many years will be dealt with, hopefully for the last time. For this upcoming workday, to maximize productivity, I'll be implementing a team based strategy. Each team will be given their own individual tool set and list of projects to complete. Each team will have a leader who will be responsible for the job at hand. This will make it easier for the house manager to oversee the big picture and not worry about every individual person. Overall the house is in very good condition thanks in large part to the local alumni who have been incredibly helpful in the wake of the garage flood. My thanks goes out to all those who have donated their time, money or resources to the house, it is greatly appreciated.



Community Relations - Charlie Scheide '11

We began our semester with a party where we collected funds to be donated to Haiti disaster relief fund. The first large event is our annual Soccer-A-Thon, which will run all day on March 27 to raise funds for Children's Miracle Network. We will also be raising money for Relay for Life to be held on April 23 as a precursor to the True Gentlemen's Day of Service. The following day is the True Gentlemen's Day of Service, where brothers will be cleaning the Mt. Ida Cemetery. We will be applying for more city funding for our ongoing Fifth Ward Memorial project, and will make sure the flower beds grow strong this semester. We are looking for different and creative fundraising opportunities, so if you have an idea please share it with me at Charles.hudson.scheide@gmail.com.

Please help our Relay for Life Team before April 23



http://main.acsevents.org/site/TR/RelayForLife/RFLFY10EA?team_id=627823&pg=team&fr_id=20680&fl=en_US&et=LlWA2utnFclC-GQglk3MXw..&s_tafId=412058

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Lambda Alpha Epsilon News

Mission Statement: *Lambda Alpha Epsilon exists to provide and protect a beneficial undergraduate experience and meaningful member relationships through dedicated alumni participation and efficient use of alumni resources.*

From the LAE Chairman: "Jerry" Witter '82

The school year started well with a hugely successful alumni weekend in October. We elected two 4 year terms and one 2 year term for LAE Board positions. Frank "Chip" Wood '01 and Jonathan "Jerry" Witter '82 were elected to the 4 year terms and John Bogdan '86 was elected to a two year term vacancy created by Mark Murdoch '84 as he fully takes on the Treasurer duties. We are seeking others for the board or helping with committees, so if anyone is interested in serving with the LAE Board or the financial advisory board to the Lion Fund let Jerry know. Check out the chapter website for more LAE news.

The fall alumni weekend was a great success mainly due to the self lead coordination of two class eras – 1977-79 and 1995-99. By getting many of their classmates back, all enjoyed meeting undergraduate, reliving old stories and catching up with each other. Saturday activities were a strong throwback to simpler days with a well attended LAE shareholder meeting informed alumni of all the work and fun of the undergraduates and house corporation and included a moving closing and ritual, a relaxed BYOB cocktail reception, and a great home cooked meal at the house with alumni spread through the first floor.



Mark Stulmaker 79 & wife, Richard Sherman 77, Jim "Surf" Owens 68, Frank Strenk 77, Bob Hammer 77, Kevin Coons 77

Here is a list of alumni who were back and we hope this group inspires other classes to get themselves organized to come back in October (it will be the same as RPI homecoming this year):

Jim „Surf“ Owens 1968, Kevin Coons 1977, Bob Hammer 1977, Peter Siegel 1977, Richard Sherman 1977, Frank Strenk 1977, Jeff Hathaway 1978, Richard Pond 1978, Thomas Agnew 1979, Andy Karpowich 1979, Joe Potts 1979, Mark Stuhlmaker 1979,

Brian Collins 1980, Dave Ho 1980, Jerry Witter 1982, Mark Murdoch 1984, Marc D'Amore 1986, Keith Dupont 1991, Matt Jeffers 1995, Mark Wilensky 1995, Rene Gonzalez 1996, James Joly 1998, Chuck Roth IV 1998, Matt Dodson 1999, Dan Folmsbee 1999, Justin Naughton 1999, Joe Pinheiro 1999, Dave Raphael 1999, Jake Skehan 1999, Mike Szczepanski 1999, Frank „Chip“ Wood 2001, John Thomas 2002, Mike Gilchrest 2007, Chris Petrino 2007, Dave Roberge 2007, Erik Saari 2007, Erik Swanson 2008, Ray Nassar 2009

We are beginning plans for a big celebration for the 50th anniversary of being in 12 Myrtle Avenue and the 60th of NYEP, so mark calendars for Oct 2011.

Garage Restoration Project

Nothing like a phone call at 3 p.m. on New Years Day from the House Manager saying "Happy New Year!! The garage is a sauna with water everywhere from a heating system failure."

Many thanks to Matt Jeffers '95 for handling the insurance and remediation efforts and Kurt Spiegel '04 for drafting plans and coordinating contractor bids. The SAE 2011 project was working on the strategy for the NYEP housing and this Garage emergency restoration provides a great opportunity for the LAE Board to gain experience in handling a large renovation project for when we will do something with the main house. At least now the Garage will be done and ready for another 30+ years of operation. We'll post construction progress photos and stories on the chapter website:

<http://www.nyepsilon.com/garage.html>

This may be an opportunity to make some major improvements to the garage living quarters, including any additions that may be required for new RPI or city code standards. We are assembling a task force among the LAE board to develop a scope of work for what modifications we would like to make to the garage during this time. If you would like to be involved, please contact LAE board member Kurt Spiegel ASAP as the timeline for this project is very tight. ("Kurt Spiegel" <Kurt@SpiegelPD.com>)

Also, as you can imagine much of the cost associated with "bringing the garage back to previous state" will have major insurance implications with our carrier Favor insurance. We are awaiting the arrival of the adjuster, but will certainly welcome any alumni assistance with regards to negotiating this major claim to protect our investments. There seems to be some questions over what is covered by what type of damage and our deductible can be extremely variable depending on cause. If anyone has a substantial law background or experience with deciphering very complicated insurance terms and legal documentation, please contact Matt Jeffers (Matthew Jeffers <mjeffers83@hotmail.com>) to lend assistance as he will be our liason to the insurance company.

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The garage first floor after remediation removed all the damaged wallboard and subflooring.

AAE Phonathon 2010

This year's phonathon will be held March 21-24 with follow on calls in April. Last year we didn't quite make our goal, but still did fairly well \$16,966 donated. We still have our goal of \$20,000 this year and will make a push to help with the restoration of the garage. The insurance will cover most of the work, but the high deductible (\$10,000) and intent to upgrade the facility to meet RPI standards as well as Troy Code revisions since the time the garage was first renovated back in the 1970's. Installing a new heating system for efficiency and safety alone will cost at least \$10,000. The project is likely to total upwards of \$65,000. While LAE has savings and currently no mortgage, this will impact the ability to deal with normal maintenance planned for the main house and any other emergency. So for the phonathon, be ready for some unique donation opportunities for classes or individuals to have a named room in the garage.

Support for the Farkouh/Heir and "Skeeter" Guild scholarship funds allowed LAE to award scholarships of \$1000 each to four undergraduates. Kevin Fort '11 & Anthony Guidarelli '09 received the Guild scholarships and Jonathan Ludwicki '12 and Jay Agarwal '12 received the Farkouh/Heir scholarships. The endowment funds stand at close to \$100,000 combined.

Greek Life Commons as part of RPI CLASS Residential College

You've seen the hype from RPI alumni mailings about Clustered Learning, Advocacy, and Support for Students (CLASS) and the requirement for sophomores to live on campus or in Greek houses "that meet stringent university standards and that have signed a Greek Life Commons Agreement." Over the past few months we finally heard what this would mean to NYEP. We were essentially forced to "voluntarily" sign the agreement in order to be able to have sophomores live at 12 Myrtle Avenue. Part of the agreement also requires a pledge to participate with the Greek Life Commons programming as part of CLASS. Most of the

requirements we already had to meet as part of the Relationship Statement or our own chapter operations. New items that the undergraduate and LAE leadership will be working to implement include opening up our doors to more safety/sanitation inspections by RPI and shifting to using the RPI Bursar for billing. The former is a result of needing to meet RPI housing standards, which is good for us to ensure good housing for our brothers. The latter is a result of being able to house students who have housing grants as part of their financial aid packages. The chapter was going to shifting to the Bursar Billing process in any case to help reduce costs of using Omega Financial and to completely remove the "bad debt" since RPI will not let students register unless their bills are paid. There will be some budget cash flow changes, need to get live-in numbers set earlier, and are relinquishing some independence from RPI, but we'll see how it goes. RPI is counting on NYEP to continue its leadership role with the evolution of Greek Life at RPI, and we are up for that responsibility with the appropriate push back when able. (For more information about CLASS and Greek Life Commons, please go to the AIGC website at <http://www.alumni.rpi.edu/services/affinity/AIGC/>.)

Alumni Weekend April 30-May 2, 2010

This year's Spring alumni weekend is scheduled to be a lot of fun. We purposely chose a weekend late in the semester so that we can hopefully have awesome weather for barbecuing, volleyball, hanging out outside, going cliff jumping, etc. We also plan on holding a senior sendoff reception at the house on Saturday to touch base with the graduating class and offer advice for life in the real world. Also, due to scheduling conflicts, I-week for our Spring pledge class may continue into Friday night. If this is the scenario, we may look into holding a cocktail hour at the Ruck if there is enough interest to hold an event outside of the house for Friday night. Please email me at alumni.nyep@gmail.com if you plan on attending the weekend.

Here is a rough schedule for the April weekend (including the alumni vs. active competition sometime):

Friday April 30

7 pm IWeek Activities

8 pm RUCK

11 pm BYOB Social

Saturday May 1

Daytime Softball, Volleyball, Golf???

5 pm Senior Sendoff Reception

6 pm Dinner at house – alumni and undergrads

9 pm BYOB social event

Sunday May 2

10:30 am Golf, Volleyball??

Please RSVP for Alumni Weekend! We need to know numbers so we can order food for Saturday.

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Alumni Weekend October 15-17, 2010

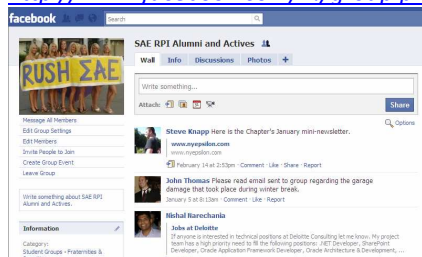
It's not too early to begin planning for the Fall 2010 Alumni Weekend. We are continuing the tradition of the third weekend in October for the LAE/NYEP weekend which will coincide with RPI's Homecoming Weekend, at which there is a growing coordination of other fraternities and sororities having their alumni weekends as well. To have another great reunion with your classmates, all it takes is a few phone calls and emails like the brothers from 1977-79 and 1995-99 did in 2009. Contact Jerry Witter '82 (jonthan.witter@gmail.com) if you need address information or use the NYEP facebook group (contact John Thomas '02 (jtsae@hotmail.com) for connections). Look for news from us later on our NYEP website or the RPI website:
<http://www.alumni.rpi.edu/involved/reunion/greeks.html>.

Classes of 55, 60, 65, 70, 75, 80, 85, 90, 95, 2000, and 2005 make an effort to come back for your 5 year anniversaries!

Alumni Connections on Facebook and Linked-in

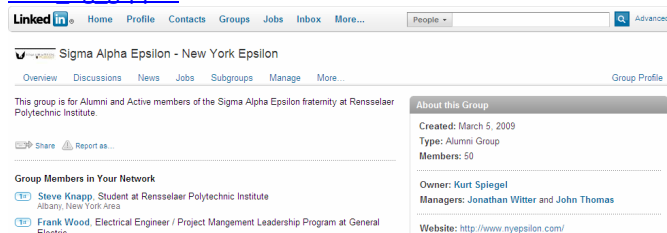
As the social/business network sites continue to grow in popularity and functionality—NY Epsilon has embraced the tools available to keep the brotherhood informed of important events and fraternity developments. Join our facebook group by searching for “SAE RPI Alumni and Actives” group and select the “request to join group” link on main page. An administrator will promptly accept your request.

<http://www.facebook.com/#!/group.php?gid=28482762859>



We also have a group established on Linked-In. (Sigma Alpha Epsilon – New York Epsilon)

<http://www.linkedin.com/groups?about=&gid=1834691&trk=anet Ug grppro>



Using either or preferably both tools, we encourage postings regarding any pertinent news including job opportunities, alumni weekend plans, and comments or questions for the good of the order. If you have any questions or difficulties joining either site, please contact John Thomas '02 (jtsae@hotmail.com)

Alumni News – We need it!

If you have news you'd like announced, send it to Andrew Brooks (brook3@rpi.edu) or newyorkepsilon@yahoo.com or drop us a snail mail note. Visit the website at www.nyepsilon.com.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

March 6-13 – Spring Break
March 21-24 – LAE Phonathon 2010
August 22-28 – Work Week
September 22 - Community Enrichment Dinner
October 15-17 – Fall 2010 Alumni Weekend
December 8 – NYEP Chartering Anniversary

Check full calendar at: <http://www.nyepsilon.com/house.html>

Ways to Support NYEP while helping ΣAE

We have a Chapter Endowment Fund at National called the “Don Farkouh/Mark Hier Memorial Fund for New York Epsilon” that supports sending undergraduates to National Leadership School. We can use up to 6% each year for scholarships, but it can't drop below \$5000. If you are thinking of donating to National, keep this fund in mind.



A group of past EA's and House Managers gather in Boston for the NCAA Winter Classic weekend at Fenway and the kick off of Jerry Witter's 50th birthday celebration year at the Cambridge Brewing Company. In the photo, enjoying the Twin Towers of Beer (clockwise): Jerry Witter '82, Dennis "Donnie" Wassung '94 (hidden, but his arm is there), Jim "Skittles" Kennedy '96, Chuck Roth '98, Niel Bentley '92, Mike "Chunky" Auren '94, Chris "Little D" Downey '96 (Mark "Wronsky" Wilensky '95 taking the picture, while Jamie Hannon '97, Dave Roberge '07 had to leave early)

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Sigma Alpha Epsilon
12 Myrtle Avenue
Troy, NY 12180

Address Correction Requested

NYEP Spring Alumni Weekend – April 30-May 2, 2010



The Fall 2009 Pledge Class during one of their photo scrap book requirements. We welcomed 12 new brothers in February and expect another 9 initiates in April.



Alumni and Actives enjoy an old school BYOB cocktail reception before the Fall 2009 Alumni Weekend dinner at the chapter house. More than 40 alumni were back to enjoy the brotherhood. See inside for more about the weekend.

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