

The True Gentleman is the man whose conduct proceeds from good will and an acute sense of propriety, and whose self-control is equal to all emergencies; who does not make the poor man conscious of his poverty, the obscure man of his obscurity, or any man of his inferiority or deformity; who is himself humbled if necessity compels him to humble another; who does not flatter wealth, cringe before power, or boast of his own possessions or achievements; who speaks with frankness but always with sincerity and sympathy; whose deed follows his word; who thinks of the rights and feelings of others, rather than his own; and who appears well in any company, a man with whom honor is sacred and virtue safe. -John Walter Wayland

Upcoming Dates

- April Phonathon 2013
- April 20 Spring Alumni Weekend
- April 26-27 Relay for Life
- April 27-28 True G Day of Service
- June 28-July 1 SAE Convention, Chicago
- July 20 LAE/EC Retreat
- August 17-24 NYEP Work Week
- September 1-27 Fall Rush
- October 4-6 NYEP/RPI Fall Alumni Weekend
- December 8 NYEP Founders Day



LAE Chairman Letter

Brothers of New York Epsilon,

As we kick off another semester at NY Epsilon, I wanted to update you about the state of the chapter. You will read in other articles and on our website about recruiting successes (including our 1000th initiate), scholarships, and the overall vitality of the chapter. Alumni Weekend in October 2012 was very well attended, and we already have commitments for turnout in 2013. And always appreciated - we have consistent alumni involvement in fundraising. As the new LAE Chairman, I am excited to lead a great team of alums and actives as the LAE board continues to tackle the long-term challenges of running a successful SAE chapter.

Our chapter is now over 60 years old, with a history of success and leadership at RPI. As we celebrate the strength of the brotherhood, we also look at ways to maintain and improve the chapter house itself. How do we plan for the physical structures to support the needs of the living and changing chapter? After generations of rising and falling occupancy rates at 12 Myrtle, are we in a new phase where we are consistently forced to turn away brothers interested in the live-in experience? Recent past and near future numbers are pointing that way, and pointing the Board towards research and action to address the future housing needs of New York Epsilon. Do we evolve at 12 Myrtle, or do we have a rebirth elsewhere? Our historical focus on financial strength has prepared us for the possibility of a new phase. We look forward to sharing our research and plans with you over the coming semesters, and will be asking for your feedback and support (both financial and sweat equity).

We look forward to hearing from you, and sharing more with you during Phonathon, and at Alumni Weekends in April and October.

Matt Jeffers '95, Chairman LAE, Inc.



The New York Epsilon Chapter of the
Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity

12 Myrtle Ave
Troy, NY 12180

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

E-mail: alumni.nyep@gmail.com

We're on the Web!
www.nyepsilon.com



NEW YORK EPSILON



Sigma Alpha Epsilon

Spring 2013

Volume I, Issue I

Biggest Pledge Class Ever

By Chris Girard '14, Pledge Educator 2012-2013

Can you guess the result the best recruitment effort ever to be seen at Rensselaer? The best group of new members a fraternity man could wish for. This Fall, after an outstanding recruitment period, the New York Epsilon Chapter of Sigma Alpha Epsilon was graced with the addition of 30 new pledges. This is much higher than what is expected for our chapter, and coupled with low-to-average turn out for rush on the whole in the Greek Community, this class helped to assert our dominance on campus.

A class this large presented a whole new set of challenges this past semester for the Chapter. Events had to be scaled up and extreme efforts were made to make sure that these 30 men, a group large enough to charter their own organization, were able to effectively assimilate into the culture of New York Epsilon. Based upon my conversations with alumni, many of you are probably shocked to hear of a pledge class of 30, let alone a house of 85 actives. It was for this reason that we had to go above and beyond this semester not only in pledge education, but in brotherhood all together. My plan of attack was to set out to ensure every pledge knew every brother, and vice-versa, within the first week. After a fun day "touring" Troy and Albany, we ended up back at the Chapter House for a speed-dating style event where pledges were paired up and sent through every room in the house to meet every brother. Additionally, I challenged each class within the house to organize a pledge event. The Seniors woke up early and took them to see the Sunrise at Thatcher State Park in the beginning of pledging to signify each group's new beginning. The Juniors organized a dodge ball event in the 87 gym, and showed the guys they were going to be around to have some fun. Both events were a raging success and I hope they continue in the future.

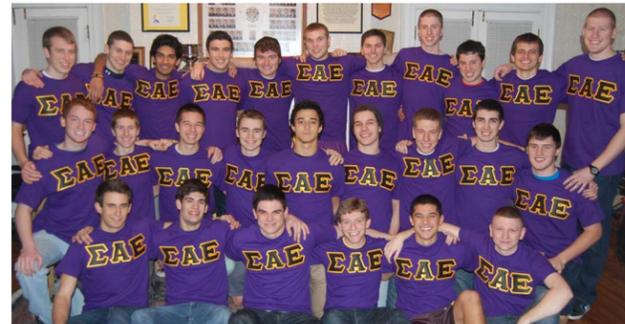
Initiation week itself proved to be another challenge for the brotherhood, as often times we found ourselves outnumbered. However, mutual respect from both sides allowed for a seamless and meaningful week for both pledges and brothers alike.

Further changes I brought to the pledge program included joining an SAE athletics team, joining a Union Club, making a LinkedIn account, making a resume & getting it critiqued by the CCPD, and sending Pledge Class Christmas Cards. Handwritten letters were written to pledge's parents inviting them to the house for Family Weekend, and the Chapter received a great response from parents that really appreciated the event. The pledge class also participated in the Eating Disorder Awareness "Purple Project" by organizing a strong show of support for a very close friend to the house.

This Fall we also saw SAE reclaim the Greek Lip Sync title as Fall 2012 continued our three-year winning streak. The video can be found on our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/RPISAE. In addition, with the help of our new EA, Kyle Moise, we have reestablished standard house letters for all of our members to wear that will make us look even better at events.

Our newest initiates are two juniors, seven sophomores, and 20 freshmen, including the son (Colin Krum) of a Pennsylvania Alpha-Zeta '88 Alum, and the grandson (Joshua Miller) of a California Beta '55 Alum. With this class we also have seen the 1,000th New York Epsilon Initiate. They are certainly all True Gentlemen, and are doing a great job promoting SAE on campus and in the Greek Community as a whole: restoring relations with some Chapters we haven't dealt with in years. SAE Pride is at an all-time high as we look forward to a semester of continuing excellence.

Name	Hometown	Major	Name	Hometown	Major
Kyle Beach '16	Latham, NY	Aero	Shawn Madden '16	Temecula, CA	Aero
Ryan Behrens '15	Chatham, NY	Biology	Josh Miller '16	Olympia, WA	IME
Ethan Bond '16	Prescott, AZ	PDI + CS	Thomas Murphy '15	Black River, NY	ChemE
Kelsen Case '16	Aaronsburg, PA	Undec Eng	Jake Nelson '16	Everett, WA	Biology
Paul Chiappetta '16	Bayport, NY	Comp Sys	Hans Ofer '16	Cooperstown, NY	Aero
Chad Collier '16	Great Falls, VA	Mech Eng	Dylan Quinn '15	Johnstown, NY	Civil Eng
Scott DeSouza '16	Cornwall, NY	IME	Zach Reddix '15	Gansevoort, NY	Aero/Mech
Joe Devine '16	Hanover, MA	Electrical Eng	Thomas Sgueglia '14	Yorktown Hts, NY	ChemE
Matt Fenlon '16	Haverhill, MA	Aero/Mech	Stephen Silber '14	San Diego, CA	CompSci
Mike Fiocco '15	Granville, NY	Electrical Eng	Nikhil Srinivasan '15	Cupertino, CA	IME/PDI
Andy Fiumara '16	Fayetteville, NY	BME	Joe Sutton '16	Fulton, NY	Nuclear Eng
Craig Garfinkel '16	Roslyn, NY	Aero/Mech	Kevin Thuruthickara '16	Medford, NJ	ChemE
Brad Huizinga '15	Willseyville, NY	Civil Eng	Shamus Wheeler '16	Milan, NH	BME
Colin Krum '16	Newport Coast, CA	Mech Eng	Spencer Whitehead '16	Novi, MI	Mathematics
Max Lipeles '16	Latham, NY	Civil Eng			



The Fall 2012 Pledge Class



In this issue:

Eminent Archon	1
Newest Brothers	1
Phonathon News	2
Meet our 1000th Initiate	2
Alumni Weekend 2012	3
News & Photos	3
Alumni Survey	3
LAE Chairman	4

Check us out online at:



- SAE RPI Alumni and Actives
- RPI Sigma Alpha Epsilon—New York Epsilon Chapter



- Sigma Alpha Epsilon-New York Epsilon



- NYEP Relay For Life <http://tinyurl.com/8y2gtgq>
- RPI Homecoming 2013



ΛAE Phonathon Update



Phi Alpha Window ²

The 2012 phonathon has been closed and we are gearing up for the 2013 calls. At the close, the total donations received was \$26,950 from 172 donors. Another 40 alumni got their donations in after August. Our strongest number of supporters is in our \$100-\$249 range with 75 alumni, followed by 66 alumni in our sustaining pool. We are fortunate that 20 alumni can make donations at the level of \$250-\$499 and 11 are able to support the chapter with a donation of more than \$500. The updated top ten classes for participation rate and donations is provided below. It is great to have 10 classes with more than ~30% participation and 7 classes donating more than \$1000.

The James Michael Joly Zeal Fund now has a base of more than \$32,000, while the "Skeeter" Guild and Farkouh/Hier Scholarship Funds have reached \$120,000. The recipients of the Farkouh/Hier Scholarships were Jordan Stambler (\$1500) and Chris Girard (\$500). The recipients of the "Skeeter" Guild Scholarships were Ben Clemence (\$1500) and Josh Ingram (\$500).

Our Lion Fund for long term major house projects stands at more than \$137,000 and continues to be supported by investments each year from the general operating budget. This fund will be instrumental for the New York epsilon in the future as there are several fraternities on campus with major plans for renovations or rebuilds—including Sigma Chi taking action this fall with a \$2.5M renovation.

Finally, we continue to make annual expenses of more than \$40,000 per year for taxes, maintenance, and alumni relations. We have the various scholarship funds and the general operating fund that appreciation your support. At National we continue to have our Endowment Fund #3350 that counts towards SAE Foundation and pays for a Leadership School registration.

If we missed you, or you haven't paid your pledged amount, you can still do that by PayPal from the chapter website or by sending a check to the LAE Treasurer Mark Murdoch at 24 Gulf Road, Somers, CT 06071.

Top Ten Rank	Class	Total Donations	Class	Participation Rate
1	1995	\$2,118.56	1982	47.06%
2	1982	\$2,100.00	1978	46.15%
3	1998	\$2,022.00	1998	44.44%
4	1999	\$2,018.56	1993	36.84%
5	1988	\$1,450.00	1983	36.36%
6	1992	\$1,050.00	1956	33.33%
7	1972	\$1,000.00	1965	33.33%
8	1993	\$995.00	2006	30.77%
9	1994	\$750.00	1967	30.77%
10	1968	\$725.00	2007	30.00%



Our new 3rd Floor Dormer Window made by Kurt Spiegel '04 unveiled in October as the "Jerry Project"

We'll be calling for Phonathon 2013 the Middle of April!!!

Meet our 1000th Initiate—Zach Reddix '15



NYEP: Why did you decide to rush in the fall?

Zach: This was actually my second chance to rush. My freshman year I had no interest in Greek life because I made some pretty false assumptions about it like a lot of people tend to do. I literally didn't attend a single rush event. Some of my friends did however, and a couple of my closet friends went SAE. My RA was even an SAE and we became extremely close that year. I still never went to the house, but needless to say I was exposed to SAE a lot through those guys. I saw how it changed them, surprisingly to me, for the better. I saw how much pride they in their fraternity and I wondered if I maybe that was something I wanted to do. After a lot of prodding they got me to agree to come out to at least one rush event next fall, and when it came around I reluctantly did so. First event was a blast, met a ton of guys and even met my future big brother that day. I decided I would come to the next one and see if it was always this awesome. That cycle basically repeated itself through rush.

NYEP: What did you think when you got your bid from SAE? did you get any others?

Zach: When I got my bid I was pretty excited but still unsure of whether or not I had the time to commit to pledging or if I even actually wanted to. I was also worried that maybe I had gotten my bid because I had some friends in the house, but they assured me that wasn't the case. I didn't attend any other rush events for other fraternities so obviously I had no other bids. It was SAE or nothing.

NYEP: What made you decide to pledge?

Zach: It was really a last second decision for me. I was still unsure of what exactly I was getting myself into. Did I trust these guys? Was rush just a show they put on? What if it affects my schoolwork? Tons of questions like these were running through my head. What really help me decide was a letter written by the guy who was the most adamant about getting me out to the house, Joe Van Essche. I still have it up on my wall. He probably doesn't realize that his letter was the driving force for me to sign my bid. I definitely owe him one for that.

NYEP: Many comments from your pledge class were on your dedication to learning, helping others, and taking on extra projects. What motivated you?

Zach: Well, I've always had the 'if you're going to do something, do it well' mentality so I'm sure that played a big part in how I went about pledging. I developed a lot of pride in the house early on, and I wanted to show that in the way I did things. Being a sophomore gave me a different perspective on things, and it also gave me the ability to help the younger guys out with school and just how to do college in general. I felt like it was my responsibility to do as much as I could to make everyone successful, and I got a lot of satisfaction out of helping. It was really cool to watch everyone come together and accomplish the things we were able to during pledging.

NYEP: What was the one thing during pledging you found good that you hadn't expected when you first pledged?

Zach: Well there were several great things about pledging, but the one that stands out most in my mind is probably how quickly the brothers made it feel like you belonged. I don't know exactly what I was expecting, maybe more of a business type relationship if that makes any sense. I was completely surprised by the fact that after we signed our bids we were instantly considered part of the fraternity, even though we were just pledges who really had no idea about it. Friendships developed so quickly it was almost absurd. I didn't think it was possible to gain so many friends so fast. I guess you could say that when I came in I thought the order of things was brotherhood then friendship, but it didn't take long for me to realize it was the other way around. That was actually the best part about pledging in my opinion.

NYEP: Now that you are the 1000th initiated, what kinds of things do you hope to do or learn to bring NYEP to its 1500th initiate?

Zach: That's a pretty big question, and I've put a lot of thought into this the past few months as we get closer to Initiation. I guess my first goal is to get an EC position, specifically Social Chairman. I was in charge of setting up our pledge class social event which was a mixer with the women's hockey team. It was an awesome event and watching everyone have a good time at an event that you planned was really satisfying. I want to be able to do that more often. Who knows, maybe after that I will try to run for EDA or maybe even EA if I decide that it's something I want to do. Outside of official positions, I really just want to keep representing the fraternity well and help us be a successful as possible. I'm really looking forward to rush, and I hope I can be one of the brothers that makes guys want to pledge SAE. I also want to be a big brother so I can really influence and guide someone through pledging and even brotherhood on a really personal level. As for after I graduate, I don't have any specifics, but I would like to stay involved somehow. If nothing else, I just want to continue to uphold the good name of Sigma Alpha Epsilon by living the life of a true gentleman even after my days at NYEP.

Recap of Alumni Weekend October 2012 ³

We saw more than 60 alumni come back for the 2012 Fall alumni Weekend. A special showing was made by the classes of 1962, 1982, and 1992. We elected many new members to the LAE board to fill some vacated positions as well as the normal 4 year positions. Matt Jeffers '95 and Kevin Neumann '82 took the 4 yr positions, Mark Abrajano '10 and JP Hennessey '12 took on a 2 yr role and Don Gillespie '11 took on a 1 yr role. The Board later elected Matt Jeffers Chairman, Kevin Neumann Vice-Chair, Mark Murdoch '84 Treasurer, and Jerry Witter '82 Secretary.

We finally found the right time and topics to hold an alumni roundtable discussion about experiences while an active and in their careers. Members of the class of 1992 with some help from 1982 talked about these topics with a group of undergraduates after dinner on Saturday:

- Lessons from SAE as undergrad that can be used in the workplace
- One regret from time as undergraduate SAE
- Differentiating yourself to get hired or promoted
- Business Culture differences - Large Company, Small Company, Family Company, International Ownership/Management
- Taking advantage of success and failure
- Effects of Outsourcing / Offshoring and strategies to cope

It was a dynamic that proved as interesting for alumni as it was for the undergraduates. We hope to continue this with new classes each year as part of the chapter continuing excellence and alumni relations programs. So, Reunion classes with 'X3 and 'X8 should plan to come back this fall in October and think about experiences you can share.

Attendees of Fall 2012 Alumni Weekend: Robert Fopeano (1951), Jim Mosteller & Sandy Mosteller (1962), Bob and Barb Athanasiou (1962), John Busse (& 1) (1962), Wayne Chittenden (1962), Forrest Wright (1962), Tom Morgan (1972), Bob Vaughan (1972), Michael James Jimenez (1972), Richard Enwright (1976), Jonathan "Jerry" Witter (1982), Les Hoogeveen (1982), Richard Hughes (1982), Clay Howser (1982), George "Er" Earle (1982), Carlos Hidalgo (& Paula) (1982), Tim Pillow (1982), Leland Hoff (1982), George Dulchinos (1982), Tom Casey (1982), Kevin Neumann (1982), Andy Ford (1982), Mark Mudoch (1984), Marc D'Amore & Lisa (1987), Brian Petrie (1987), Don Birks & Carol (1987), Joe Mannino (1991), Christopher Young (1992), Roger Bly (1992), Tim Bakos (1992), Todd S. Cieplinski (1992), Frankie "the man" Fonseca (1992), Neil Bentley (1992), Wil Martinez (1992), Ajay Kothe (1992), Matthew Jeffers (1995), Rodney Garcia (2002), John Thomas (2002), Kurt Spiegel & Maura (2004), Jared Ray (2004), Michael Gilchrist (2007), Erik Swanson (2008), Dan Van Blarcom (2009), Mike Pansa (2009), Joeseeph Leeds (2009), Brian Michalis (2009), Caleb Commock (2009), Andrew Brooks (2010), Ben Rosenthal (2010), James Croke (2010), Andrew Gudmundsen (2010), Nick Profita (2010), Brian Wang (2010), Evan Kenyon (2011), Derek Cheng (2011), Don Gillespie (2011), Alex Morin (2012), John Knight (2012), Justin Grimm (2012), J.P. Hennessey (2012)



Class of 1982 celebrating 30th reunion. 12 out of the class of 17 made it back to share memories and swap stories.

Fall Alumni Weekend is October 4-6 along with RPI's Reunion. Let us know if you want help organizing your class's return—alumni.nyep@gmail.com

Archon's Report Kyle Moise '14

This year, Sigma Alpha Epsilon is all about doing things bigger and better than ever before. As we prepare for warmer weather, we're pleased to welcome our 29 newly initiated brothers, one of which is our 1000th member; a milestone for our chapter. This year, our chapter has taken a radically different approach to new member education, philanthropy, and social events as we dynamically adapt to Rensselaer's ever-changing Greek infrastructure. The success of these changes can be seen in the continual fire and charisma in members new and old.

Members of our executive council are cooking up some great events to promote our chapter as we move into the semester. For example, our community relations chair is planning a Greek Olympics to help bring together Rensselaer's Greek community, and our social committee is planning numerous mixers and events to help us responsibly kick back during a rigorous schedule of classes and other activities. Speak with an active SAE in our house, and you'll realize quickly that our chapter continues to build outstanding gentleman, as it has for over 60 years now. As an EC, we can't be happier with the chapter as it is today.

With 83 active brothers, we prove that a large chapter can do great things, without losing sight of the big picture. We find the intricate balance between preserving old traditions and thinking outside the box to find new ones for years to come. Come on up to visit for alumni weekend or even an impromptu weekend in Troy. I promise, you won't be disappointed.

Help Support our Relay for Life Team

On April 26th-27th, the Relay for Life of RPI will be held and Sigma Alpha Epsilon will be participating once again. Last year we helped raise more than \$3000 and we hope to surpass that amount this year. Please visit our team's homepage that http://main.acevents.org/site/TR?fr_id=48248&pg=team&team_id=1357031



House Man's Report Lucas Rice '14

Another Year has passed and the house at 12 Myrtle still stands. Much was done to improve the house during the year; including the refinishing of the basement floor, new third floor windows to try to slightly improve the drafty house, the addition of a bench by the volleyball court by the fall pledge class and a new cook's fridge.

One of the biggest projects was the addition of front walkway brick flower boxes. The dead bushes that used to be there were pulled out and two large holes dug, where a brick base was laid and eventually built up to chest height. Electricity was brought out to the boxes and lights installed to make the steps safer. This semester, brothers will build LED down lighting on the front that will highlight bronze plaques proudly display with the address, house letters and fraternal crest.

The brothers made a big effort this at the end of the semester to show our commitment to the holiday spirit by decorating the outside of the house with Christmas lights. Many neighborhood, SAE alumni, and friends of the house said that they loved what we had done and hoped we would continue it in future years. Pictures for these projects and more can be seen on the NYEP Facebook page or website.

The new flower boxes finished in time for the Community Enrichment Dinner in September