



SIGMA ALPHA EPSILON

NEW YORK EPSILON CHAPTER

Spring 2015 Alumni Newsletter

The New Members Of ΣΑΕ



This past fall, we were able to welcome 16 new brothers into our fraternity. As some of you may know, our Supreme Council has instituted a new education program entitled *The True Gentleman Experience* in which members of all year levels take part. The program includes, among other mandates, that our new members be initiated within 96 hours of their signing their bids. As a chapter, we were worried that our education program would prove less effective without the pledge-brother separation. However, our new brothers knew full well that they had to pull their own weight as members of our fraternity. Over the course of their first semester and a half of brotherhood, the class of Fall 2014 has done remarkably. Some of their contributions include hosting a community service event at the nearby Frear Park, planning and executing a social mixer with a campus sports team, and designing and rebuilding our basement's benches. As far as intangibles go, this group of 16 may be the most closely-knit bunch to join our house in recent history. Their connections with one another are visible to anyone paying attention, and their drive to contribute to the betterment of our organization is surely something to admire. Their Phi Alpha Week gave them a boost of confidence and allowed them to realize their purpose as an important asset to the whole, and we hope to continue that energy and transfer it throughout the brotherhood. Moving forward and looking toward rush next fall, Fall 2014's class will serve as a great basis for the kinds of men that we hope to bring in next year. Our chapter is constantly searching to improve, and Fall 2014 is a giant step in the right direction. -Matt Fenlon '16

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NYEpsilon.com

Akash Chandani	San Jose, CA
Krish Chandani	San Jose, CA
Andrew Dumont	Westfield, NJ
Mike Hoherchak	Stamford, CT
Matthew Krecicki	Winter Park, FL
Theodore Lesiak	Medina, OH

New Member Hometowns

Marco Lobosco	Glendale, NY
Ranjit Marthay	San Jose, CA
Chris Michaelangelo	Wilmington, MA
Ryan Nealon	Somers, NY

Anthony DeLosReyes	Dix Hills, NY
Tigran Alex Divanya	Chicago, IL
Chris Pybus	Coronado, CA
Tom Reigelman	Danville, CA
Zach Shearin	Raleigh, NC
Sam Zajac	Harvard, MA

Jerry Witter Running for Eminent Supreme Council

Greek chapter advisors are alumni who seek to keep themselves involved in their chapter's affairs through guidance, advice, and support. These advisors are a vital and necessary part of Greek life because they provide the experience needed to run an organization that can be upwards of 80 active undergraduate brothers. For many years Jerry Witter was New York Epsilon's chapter advisor. He is a great brother who has dedicated much of his time to help our chapter grow and flourish to what it is today. Witter held multiple key officer positions while here at RPI for his undergraduate studies of Nuclear Engineering, and after he graduated in 1982 he continued to be an invaluable part of our chapter. But, not only has he been active within our own chapter, Witter has also held multiple positions on the boards for provinces Nu, Alpha, and Gamma.

This year, Brother Witter wants to take his influence to the next level. He has put in his candidacy for Eminent Supreme Chronicler, in the hopes of joining the Executive Supreme Council of Sigma Alpha Epsilon in the election cycle. If elected, Witter will focus on three main goals: 1) to improve operations of the Supreme Council and other various councils; 2) to enhance alumni volunteerism for various alumni associations, like house corporations, province councils, and collegiate positions; and 3) to bring more transparency on the fiscal operations of the national fraternity – particularly with health and safety fees.

Witter is hopeful that he can win this position, and through it he hopes to create positive changes that affect all brothers of the Sigma Alpha Epsilon realm.

-Written by Christopher Pybus '18



State of the Chapter by Our Current Eminent Archon

This year has been a very challenging but rewarding year for NY Epsilon. We saw our first class under the new TGE program go through, and I am happy to announce that the process was a great success for our chapter. With one year under our belt, we feel confident that future classes will continue to receive the proper education and experience necessary in order to integrate into the house. With the new member class we are sitting at 86 total brothers for the spring semester. While sustaining a brotherhood of so many can be challenging in itself, it has given us the opportunity to have a large effect on campus and in the community. Many of our brothers are involved in varsity and club level sports, as well as intramurals. We also have brothers in student government, the IFC, a variety of clubs, and other organizations on campus. Needless to say, our presence can definitely be felt by our administration, classmates, and neighbors. As we go forward we hope to continue improving and growing together as a chapter and are excited for another successful semester here at NY Epsilon.

Phi Alpha! Zach Reddix '15



The house of NY Epsilon during its annual Community Enrichment Dinner

Alumni Spotlight - Don "Buck" Vanderhoef '93

This past semester I had the pleasure of getting to know an alumnus at who has been very involved with SAE, both a within New York Epsilon and beyond, as well as many endeavors outside the realm of SAE, Don "Buck" Vanderhoef. Don grew up in the Capitol District of Albany and was an RPI hockey fan long before he came to RPI on a full ROTC scholarship with the United States Navy, as well as being a Rensselaer Medal Winner. He pledged Sigma Alpha Epsilon his sophomore year with the Spring of '91 class after having many roommates and friends who were SAEs. Buck graduated in 1993 with a degree in Mechanical Engineering.



While an active brother, Buck was a very involved with the house. The semester after getting initiated, he took on the role of House Man. Buck was very knowledgeable in the area as his father had been an industrial manager, and thus Buck was exposed to this sort of work before. As House Man, he supervised many of the larger projects the house has ever taken on, including the repointing of all of the house's brick work, and the updating of all roofing, windows, flooring, and electrical work within the house. In 1992, Don attended the John O. Mosely Leadership School where the nickname "Buck" was coined. He has said that he is more than willing to tell the story of how he got it to anyone who asks. Buck's big brother is John Kinton and his three little brothers are Tetsuya Nakayama, Wade Eckler, and Jeff Spaulding. Buck describes his experience with SAE as his best at RPI, saying he learned a great deal about organizing and dealing with people, as well as about business as he managed the large House Man budget as a young man.

After graduating from RPI, Buck worked for the US Navy, serving on the USS Wisconsin until he came back on the 1st wave back from the Persian Gulf. He returned to the Albany Area where he ran his a local furniture company, DirectBuy, for 18 years. During this period, Buck became involved once again with NY Epsilon by joining the LAE board and with SAE National at the Provincial level as he began to hold various positions within Province Nu and the Cook Region. The most influential of these positions was the Archon of Province Nu, where Buck was responsible for setting up numerous alumni associations as well as helping start a number of new chapters, including those at Yale, Hofstra, and Oswego. Furthermore, he was a driving force in the updating of many databases that SAE national uses to this day. Buck became less involved with the fraternity as he moved to the Adirondacks for a short while, but has moved back into the area and rejoined the LAE Board. Buck is also leading the creation of an Albany Area Alumni Association. Currently, he is working as the head of the clinical division of Accent, a technical furniture company.

In his free time, Don enjoys breeding Siberian Huskies and sailing. He currently owns 2 huskies and said that he has always liked dogs and that breeding was a natural progression for him. Buck got into sailing at a young age as he grew up right beside Lake Champlain. In fact as we did this interview, he was currently on a vacation sailing through the British Virgin Islands. And we connected via WiFi on his catamaran.

Buck plans to continue both his professional and recreational endeavors as he is going to remain on the LAE board, and will keep on sailing and breeding Siberian Huskies. Furthermore, Buck is getting married next year in the Caribbean. I know I speak for us all when I congratulate him and wish him all the best. -Written by Gary Liskovich '17

Alumni Weekend - April 25-26

This Spring alumni weekend we doing another fun day paintball! This will be the second year we are hosting paintball, as it was a great success last spring. There will be a barbeque in the afternoon at the house. If the weather is good a volleyball tournament will be in the cards. Speaking of cards, poker may be in the works for the evening festivities. The following day we will hold our LAE board meeting. Come out for what is sure to be a great weekend!

Friday:

5-10 p.m. Registration and Welcome

Saturday:

10 a.m.-2 p.m. Paintball

3-5 p.m. Volleyball and BBQ at the House

Sunday:

10-12 a.m. LAE Board & Future Housing Meeting



Save the Date:
Fall Alumni Weekend 2015
October 1-4

Join the SAE RPI Alumni and Actives Facebook group for more frequent

news. Please register for the upcoming Spring alumni weekend at http://nyepsilon.herokuapp.com/alumni_weekends.

NYEP Community Relations Update

We here at New York Epsilon pride ourselves in an ongoing and dedicated tradition of service to our community and volunteering our time to help the people of Troy and beyond. Every semester, members of the brotherhood volunteer at the Salvation Army soup kitchen and tutoring young children at the Troy Boys and Girls Club. Additionally, we host an annual Farkouh Field Day event where we help entertain and serve food to children at the Troy Boys and Girls Club, giving them a full day of fun!. Last year, we worked in conjunction with the Alpha Phi sorority in a cause for women's cardiac care. In this fundraiser members around RPI would have their "mug shot" taken and would only be "bailed out" based on a certain amount of Facebook likes they received on their picture. The person to attain the most likes and raise the most money received a prize. This semester we are initiating an involvement with our the Troy Habitat for Humanity, an organization that aids in building houses for people around the Albany area. We additionally have two big community relations events planned for this semester: Relay for Life and an Amazing Race event, hosted by Alpha Phi and ourselves. We hope to outdo on our success in last year's Relay for Life by increasing our fundraising goal by \$1000. This year, we plan to donate the funds raised by our Amazing Race event to LifeNets, a local organization founded at RPI to distribute malaria-preventing mosquito nets in sub-Saharan Africa. This semester, our chapter hopes to continue its positive presence in our local community and use our combined efforts to effect positive change in the lives of others.

-Written By Krish Chandani '18

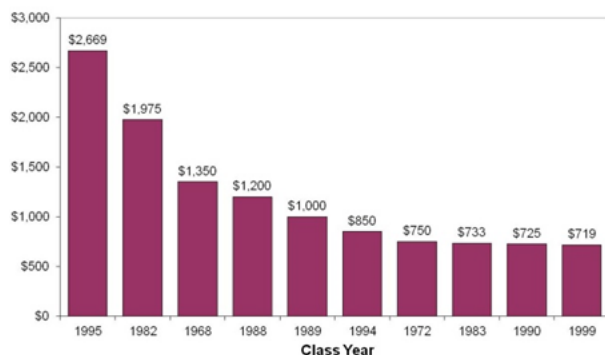


Phonathon 2014 Wrap-up

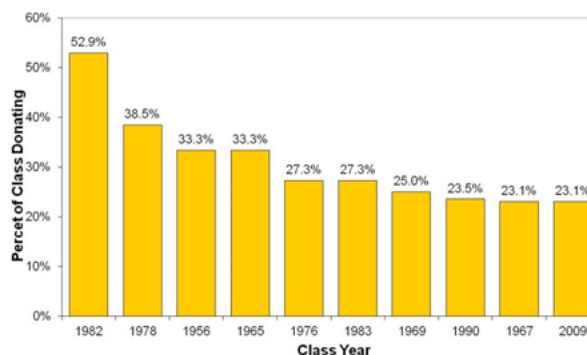
We closed out phonathon 2014 donations the end of December and the totals were \$23,206.80 from 130 generous alumni donors. The total was a little below our target of \$25,000 and this is related to having the number of donors being well below our target of 175 donors. Some of this is related to being able to get through to actually talk to the alumni and some is related to the fact that we didn't receive donations from 70 alumni who pledged a total of another \$8,300. With a number of distractions and emergent issues occurring in the summer and fall, we failed to do a good follow-up reminder with those alumni. For this year, LAE and the undergraduates are committing to getting through to more alumni and following an improved process for initially getting the pledge sheets out and then tracking the "missed you" and "forgot to send the check" follow-ups. Overall this is still a very successful part of our alumni support to sustaining the NYEP chapter and helping us maintain the physical facility of 12 Myrtle Avenue through our general funds and the education of some brothers through our scholarship endowment funds. Check out our donor honor roll and some fun facts about the top ten for amount classes donated and percent of class which participated.

Top Ten Classes in Donations and Participation				
Ra	Class	Dona-	Class	Participa-
1	1995	\$2,668.	1982	52.94%
2	1982	\$1,975.	1978	38.46%
3	1968	\$1,350.	1956	33.33%
4	1988	\$1,200.	1965	33.33%
5	1989	\$1,000.	1976	27.27%
6	1994	\$850.00	1983	27.27%
7	1972	\$750.00	1969	25.00%
8	1983	\$733.00	1990	23.53%
9	1990	\$725.00	1967	23.08%
10	1999	\$718.56	2009	23.08%

Top Ten Classes in Donations for 2014



Top Ten Classes in Percentage of Class Donating in 2014



Phonathon 2015 is March 8-10!!!