

# THE LION'S ROAR

NY Epsilon ♦ Sigma Alpha Epsilon ♦ Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute



## PRESERVING OUR PAST, PROVIDING FOR OUR FUTURE



## REPORT FROM LAMBDA ALPHA EPSILON

### BROTHERS OF NY EPSILON,

As I write this, we are 18 months into a pandemic that has certainly been impactful on each and every one of us. We have lost Brothers to the Chapter Eternal, and RPI remains under strict COVID protocols.

Despite the RPI Administration mandating all Greek Chapter houses to be unoccupied from Thanksgiving 2020 until August 2021, as a private business, LAE and a handful of other Fraternity's Alumni along with the Alumni Fraternity and Sorority Council (AFC), created a protocol to keep private chapter houses open with limited occupancy. The residences that remained open had zero COVID incidences. I would like to thank the board members of LAE and the undergraduate students of NY Epsilon for their perseverance in the face of adversity.

We are forging ahead with our house renovation project financed by both the Lion's Fund and the Preserving Our Past, Protecting Our Future Campaign. I would like to thank the generous alumni who have pledged throughout the past 35 years through our annual phonathon, including those who contributed during our Capital Campaign – it is because of your generosity that we are well positioned to be the premiere residence on RPI's campus, and also why we are able to weather storms such as this pandemic.

Within the last few weeks, RPI administration has announced they intend to shift to a "virtual" homecoming for this upcoming Fall 2021 homecoming weekend. Despite this, we still plan to host an in-person Homecoming / Alumni Gathering on Saturday, October 9th 2021 at 12 Myrtle Ave. The annual LAE Shareholder's Meeting will be at 1 PM that Saturday at the chapter house. We also have a social gathering planned that evening at the Ruck (Sutter's), with the top two floors privately reserved.

There will be a Zoom feed for the Shareholder's meeting for anyone who cannot make it to Troy. A link to the meeting will be provided on the chapter website and the Facebook alumni page. Please join us for detailed updates on the campaign, renovation project, and future of NY Epsilon and the Greek Community at Rensselaer.

**Don "Buck" Vanderhoef**  
(518) 302-1856

Chairman, LAE Inc  
[lae.chairman@gmail.com](mailto:lae.chairman@gmail.com)

## UPCOMING SHAREHOLDERS MEETING

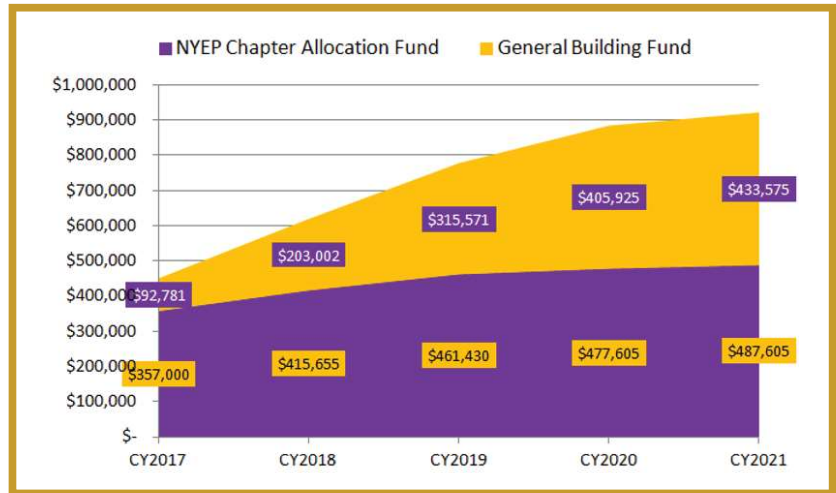
Lambda Alpha Epsilon will be hosting the year's shareholder's meeting on Saturday October 9, 2021 at 1 PM. This will be held at the chapter house. For any brothers who cannot attend the meeting in person, please tune into the Webex link provided on the chapter website and the Facebook alumni page.

# PRESERVING OUR PAST, PROVIDING FOR OUR FUTURE

## UPDATE ON PRESERVING OUR PAST, PROTECTING OUR FUTURE CAMPAIGN

As of July 2021, the campaign has received \$921,180 in donations, with \$487,600 to the SAE Foundation Chapter allocation fund, and \$433,580 to the LAE building fund. This is from 132 generous alumni. We will generate a new honor roll for the October LAE chapter meeting, but wanted to recognize some donors who we had mistakenly misreported. John Majane '53 had donated \$3,000 to the Chapter Allocation Fund in memory of Robert Weeks '51. Before Paul DeVivo '64 passed on the Chapter Eternal in March 2021, he had made an additional donation in memory of Wayne Chittenden '62. Both brothers are at the Brotherhoods Society Level having donated between \$2,500-\$4,999.

To begin to transition off active the campaign and back to revised annual support like our phonathon, we've investigated taking advantage of a new (finally) way to donate to fraternities and sororities via RPI. We set up a RPI Sigma Alpha Epsilon Chapter Support Fund, to which alumni can make tax deductible donations, take advantage of corporate matching, and have the money directed for use by LAE and NYEP for student life and housing needs. This comes with a little more flexibility than we have with the Chapter Allocation Fund that we set up with SAE Foundation to help fund the chapter houser renewal construction project costs. It does come with the RPI management fee of 10% upon disbursement, but the AFSC and other chapter making use of the new fund felt the opportunity for corporate matching and more options for use of the funds was worth that expense charge. And with Pres. Jackson leaving next summer, it is an opportunity to rebuild some bridges and relations to support for RPI. One can find the fund donation information here: <https://giving.rpi.edu/fraternities-and-sororities/>



**Jonathan "Jerry" Witter '82**  
LAE Secretary

## REPORT FROM THE EMINENT ARCHON

After a difficult and challenging one and a half years, the brotherhood is ecstatic to come back together for a new academic year. For the first time since March of 2020, the house is open to full capacity, holding 25 brothers to live together once again. We have bright eyes as we look to the future of our fraternity, expecting a year full of memories and new experiences.

### STRONG RETURN TO BROTHERHOOD

After a difficult time of separation, the brothers are eager to unite and engage in plenty of brotherhood opportunities. The first anticipated event is our return to intramural sports. With three IFC sports being offered this fall (Soccer, football, and kickball), the brotherhood is dedicated to winning the Barker trophy once again. In addition to intramural sports, brothers are excited to return to their campus clubs as well. We have members engaged in a variety of sports such as soccer, rugby, swimming, and motorsport. Outside of RPI sponsored events/clubs, we are most importantly happy to be able to have in-person brotherhood events accessible to everyone. A successful kickball game took place just weeks ago, with other plans such as axe-throwing, white water rafting, and paintballing on the way.

### A CRITICAL RUSH AHEAD

As 22 of the current members will be graduating in 2022, all hands are on deck to have a successful rush this year. The rush chairman (Austin Borina '22) has done an excellent job so far of hosting events for potential new members. Some of the events held so far include: Volleyball and barbecue day, video games night, poker night, and continuous events for Sunday football. We have had incredible turnouts so far at all of our events, with over 50 people coming to meet the brotherhood. The mindset of all brothers remains the same, which is to keep the house thriving with a tremendous rush.



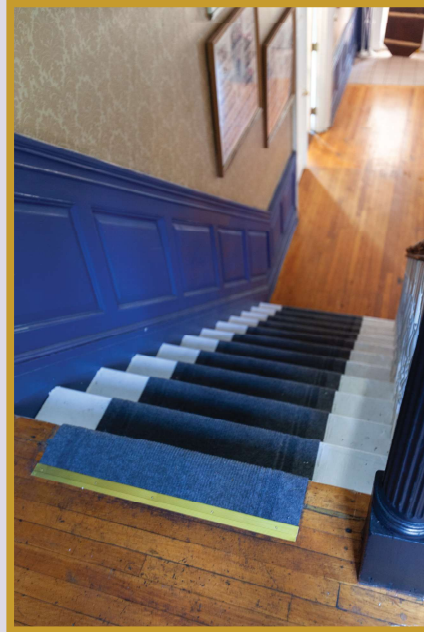
While I have only just begun my journey as Eminent Archon for this fraternity, I have already realized the responsibilities and difficulties that come with the position. It has been over a year since the house has been filled with a large number of brothers, which meant many of our newer brothers had not yet been exposed to living with each other. This was the greatest obstacle we have had to overcome so far, but we have successfully returned the live-in experience to its maximum. I would personally like to thank LAE and all the undergraduate officers for their continued support as we all thrive to improve upon the fraternity we cherish so dearly.

Phi Alpha,  
**Liam Tracey '22**  
[ea@nyepsilon.com](mailto:ea@nyepsilon.com)



WORK WEEK 2021 PROJECTS

*With 25 brothers living-in this year, we had plenty of hands to make 12 Myrtle Ave the best it can be. Here are a few of the projects we finished.* —Anthony McGrann '23 | House Manager | [houseman@nyepsilon.com](mailto:houseman@nyepsilon.com)



**MAIN STAIRCASE**

The main staircase is looking great with the black railing and white steps repainted, all broken spindles replaced, and a brand new carpet runner.



**KITCHEN FRIDGE**

After much discussion with LAE, a new fridge was purchased and installed into the kitchen.



**MAIN STAIRCASE**

Nearly every bathroom at New York Epsilon, as well as the entire kitchen, has been given a thorough cleaning and new coat of paint. EA Liam Tracey especially did a great job with the bathrooms with his painting experience.



**SPIKEBALL TOURNAMENT**

All work and no play? Not at Sigma Alpha Epsilon.



**VOLLEYBALL COURT AND BENCH**

After weeding, digging, raking, and mulching, the volleyball court is back in business.



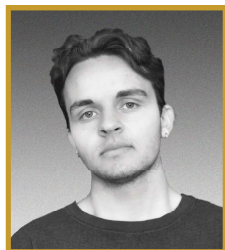
## CRC CHAIRMAN REPORT

The position of Community Relations Chair has the sole responsibility to ensure that the brothers of Sigma Alpha Epsilon maintain a healthy and continuous relationship with the community through acts of service. Ten hours of volunteer work is required from every brother each semester through events organized by the CRC in correlation with various organizations scattered about the Troy area. The past year has proven difficult to organize in person events due to the pandemic, but the future is looking up as this coming semester shows promise for more community engagement.

For this upcoming semester, we are planning to continue some of our traditional community events along with some new ones such as a contest between local pizzerias. Reaching out to these local businesses and bringing out students from campus should really boost our exposure and hopefully start a tradition that we can repeat year after year. Additionally, in November the house will be participating in Movember where we will be growing out our facial hair and raising funds for men's health through promotions on campus throughout the month. Another smaller event that came up at convention this year in Iowa was the Be the Match who are leaders in bone marrow transplantation. We will be ordering registration kits for the whole house and all will be entered into their system for potential donors to help those in need of life saving bone marrow transplants.

One of our previously successful events which will be coming back this semester will be our service to the Boys and Girls club. For this we will be setting up blowup bounce houses and doing other fun activities with the boys and girls of Troy. It's been a while since we were able to go out to our community because of COVID restrictions so we are very excited to bring back more events like these where we can get out of the house. Another community idea that came up at convention was the bed building with Sleep in Heavenly Peace. This association builds beds from scratch with volunteers to donate them to children who don't have beds to sleep in. We would be hosting a building event here at the house in conjunction with the Mechanicville SHP chapter. At the Iowa convention we got a taste of one of these bed making sessions, it was very streamlined and would be a great way to get volunteers from campus because it's so easy to pick up a sander and help out.

Looking to the future, this semester has a lot of potential because of our increased live in brothers and less restrictions on public interaction. Community support is necessary to keep up the proud image of Sigma Alpha Epsilon here in Troy and I am confident that the brothers will be hands-on and ready to help our neighbors and local businesses in their time of need.



Phi Alpha,  
**Aaron Lockwood '24**





# PRESERVING OUR PAST, PROVIDING FOR OUR FUTURE

## FALL 2021 CHAPTER OFFICERS

### Eminent Archon

Liam Tracey '22  
[ea@nyepsilon.com](mailto:ea@nyepsilon.com)

### Eminent Deputy Archon

Carter Springer '22  
[eda@nyepsilon.com](mailto:eda@nyepsilon.com)

### Eminent Treasurer

Jonathan Wong '22  
[treasurer@nyepsilon.com](mailto:treasurer@nyepsilon.com)

### House Manager

Anthony McGrann '23  
[houseman@nyepsilon.com](mailto:houseman@nyepsilon.com)

### Recruitment Chairman

Austin Borina '22  
[rush@nyepsilon.com](mailto:rush@nyepsilon.com)

### Alumni Chairman

Jack McCoy '24  
[alumni@nyepsilon.com](mailto:alumni@nyepsilon.com)

### Community Relations Chairman

Aaron Lockwood '24  
[Lockron144@gmail.com](mailto:Lockron144@gmail.com)

### Social Chairman

Armando Guzman '22  
[lifearrow3@gmail.com](mailto:lifearrow3@gmail.com)

### Risk Manager

Albert Nova '22  
[Albertnova58@gmail.com](mailto:Albertnova58@gmail.com)

### Member Educator

Jason Inzeo '22  
[nicklenn618@gmail.com](mailto:nicklenn618@gmail.com)

### Stewards

Tom Ranney '22  
[thomasran6@gmail.com](mailto:thomasran6@gmail.com)

Nick Lennox '22  
[nicklenn618@gmail.com](mailto:nicklenn618@gmail.com)

### Scholarship

Cameron Smith '22  
[cameronssmith01@gmail.com](mailto:cameronssmith01@gmail.com)

## SPRING 2021 NEW MEMBERS

**Jack McCoy**  
Stony Brook, NY

**Nathan Kerr**  
Owasso, OK

**Trey Briccetti**  
Troy, NY

**Constantine Marinos**  
Garden City, NY

**Michael Park**  
Barrington, RI

**Aaron Lockwood**  
Mahwah, NJ

**Christopher Cammillerri**  
Clarence, NY

**Jacob Schmitt**  
Aurora, NY

## THE NEW "SUMMER ARCH PROGRAM" EXPERIENCE

This summer I participated in the summer arch program here at RPI. The Arch is a new program at RPI where students take a semester of classes the summer after their sophomore year and take an away semester for either the spring or fall of the following year. For the away semester, students typically partake in an internship or research experience.

I took four classes for my summer semester, all of which were online. At first, I wasn't looking forward to the experience. I did not want to be stuck taking classes at school while all my friends were home having fun. However, I found Arch much more enjoyable than I first envisioned.

Only people in my graduating class were on campus, which made the experience much more personal. It was nice to be able to walk on campus and be surrounded with people who I was familiar with. In addition, being on campus this semester gave me the opportunity to grow closer with my brothers at SAE. With most on campus activities being shut down due to COVID, it was nice to be able to have the chapter house to hang out at.

I also had time to start planning for my away semester. I took the time to finalize my resume and cover letter and began to apply for internships for the spring. While no one wants to spend their summer taking classes at school, I still found Arch to be a fun experience. I am grateful for the connections I made and the experiences I had this summer.

Phi Alpha,  
**Christopher Cammillerri '23**



## 165TH ANNIVERSARY NATIONAL CONVENTION

Upon arriving in Des Moines, Iowa, I was hit with such a strong energy of brothers across the country in the hotel lobby. Due to the pandemic, this year's National Convention was the first time either Aaron or I had attended an in person SAE event outside of NY Epsilon. The weekend was packed with charity events (Sleep in Heavenly Peace, Movember, Be the Match), forums about chapter development (alumni engagement, service ideas, SAE leadership programs, unapologetic pride), and plenary sessions. These sessions were driven towards electing new Supreme Council chairs, voting on bylaws, and various presentations.

SAE Fraternity Service Center did a great job making this event special with social events and banquet dinners during the days' down time. I can speak for both Aaron and myself that we are grateful to Steve Wood (2013) and Jerry Witter (1982) for representing NYEP Alumni Association and sharing this great experience with us.



Phi Alpha,  
**Jack McCoy '24**  
[Alumni@nyepsilon.com](mailto:Alumni@nyepsilon.com)

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groups/SAE.RPI.Alumni.Actives](http://www.facebook.com/groups/SAE.RPI.Alumni.Actives)

📷 [@sae\\_nyepsilon](https://www.instagram.com/sae_nyepsilon)

in [www.linkedin.com/  
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New York Epsilon Chapter of  
Sigma Alpha Epsilon  
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute  
12 Myrtle Avenue  
Troy NY, 12180

*Address Service Requested*

*Attention: This newsletter is intended for alumni and parents. If your son is still attending RPI, he will receive a copy at the chapter house. If he has graduated, please send us his permanent address to update our records. Thank you.*

## Seasons Greetings

*New York Epsilon appreciates the efforts and dedication of its alumni who have made the chapter one of the strongest fraternities at RPI. We wish our best to you and yours for a fun and safe holiday season! Remember that you always have a second home here at New York Epsilon.*



## PHOENIX TASK FORCE UPDATE

Fellow Brothers,

The Building Project Committee (internally called the Phoenix Task Force) has re-engaged with both the architect and the preferred contractor, CGM Construction. We've now begun the preconstruction process, and are currently focused on identifying scope risks, updating budgets, and determining the most cost effective phasing plan. This process will lead us through the development of the drawings and into construction.

As we emerge from this pandemic, our focus is on reinvigorating the chapter house and preparing it for the next 70 years of use by NY Epsilon. I look forward to continuously sharing updates as we have them over the next year.

**John O'Neil '12**  
Member, LAE Board