



SIGMA ALPHA EPSILON

NEW YORK EPSILON CHAPTER

Spring 2017 Alumni Newsletter

EA State of the Chapter



This past winter break, I had the opportunity to attend the 4th annual EA Institute in Chicago. There I attended seminars pertaining to my duties as Eminent Archon.

The spring 2017 year got off to a great start; we started out the semester by bringing back the spring brotherhood retreat where we talked about what the chapter was strong in, and what the chapter could improve upon. We took these topics and set semester long goals to achieve them. This was very effective, because it got the entire brotherhood to agree on a direction to take the chapter.

One of the big topics of the retreat was recruitment; recently RPI has been seeing a drop in the number of members signing during the fall and a rise in people signing in the spring, so we have started to participate in spring recruitment. This was the sec-

ond year in a row where we participated in spring rush, we had a limited budget, but were able to pull in seven new members, which was the third largest class.

We currently have 59 active brothers, with a number of brothers studying abroad or on co-op for the semester. While we might not have the largest house in New York Epsilon's history, our actives are very engaged with RPI and the community. We currently have brothers on the IFC exec, student senate, Greek Judicial board, varsity sports, as well as executive positions in a variety of other clubs on campus.

As we finish out the semester, I am excited to see the house meet some of the goals set in the fall as well as the beginning of the semester. I am excited to see New York Epsilon continue to grow and be an example for other chapters across the realm.

Phi Alpha! Tom Reigelman '17

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E-mail: alumni.nyep@gmail.com

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nyepsilon.com



<==12 Myrtle
ready for Com-
munity Enrich-
ment Dinner in
Fall 2016

January Spring
Rush hot choco-
late on campus

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Byron Flynn '18 Attends ΣAE Ritual Institute



This past fall, I attended the DeVotie Ritual Institute in beautiful Evanston, Illinois. This event filled weekend started off with a tour of the Levere Memorial Temple which was nothing short of amazing.

Filled to the brim with artifacts, symbolism, and beautiful architecture it immediately gave me a sense of pride and zeal for the history and accomplishments of our organization. After being treated to some authentic Chicago deep dish, all the attendees were sent to the hotel to prepare for the following two days of seminar.

The following morning, we were treated to a mock ritual ceremony with a play by play analysis of each step. This really put the ritual as a process into perspective as we learned many of

the subtleties of conducting a proper ceremony that benefits both the newly initiated as well as the active brothers. Immediately following we attended various seminars until the late afternoon with only a quick break for lunch in the middle. In these seminars we learned about various things such as the roots of our foundation, the symbolism of our emblems and the true history of our founding. By far the most moving event for me was when a speaker came in to discuss the meanings of Sigma Alpha Epsilon and Phi Alpha. Beginning with the Greek roots of the words he transitioned into a very passionate sermon preaching about their meaning and how it applied to the founders as well as every active and alumni. The following day concluded the ritual school with some final seminars and a recap by Eminent Supreme

Archon Steve Churchill.

The most important take away to me was my pride in Sigma Alpha Epsilon. We have a rich history and ritual that every new member deserves to be imparted with. We breed the best of men with our founding principles and adherence to the true gentleman that was displayed by every brother at the convention. If you ever get the chance, I highly recommend taking a tour of the temple and learning more about our great organization.

Phi Alpha,

Byron Flynn '18

New Member Classes from Two Recruitment Periods



In the Fall of 2016, IFC and NYEP rush was a little rough, but we managed to bring in a class of 8 New Members (from 28 bides given). Rush numbers were way down for

the IFC, despite a record sized class of Freshman and high number of bids given.. This was a trend over the past 3 falls and the IFC, AIGC, and Institute are looking into the reasons. Some of it was related to two chapters getting suspended for alcohol violations and some others being on the bubble. Another set of reasons could

be lack of exposure to students during SO, sports coaches discouraging joining and NRB and changing demographics of student desires. So the IFC once again held a longer spring rush period at the start of the semester and NYEP participated. We took on an additional 7 new members, despite giving out 20 bids.

We're now assessing why, what, and how to do rush for the future semesters and where the chapter wants to be positioned relative to the other chapters on campus.

Marco Lobosco '17



We welcome the eight members of our Fall '16 class!

FALL 2016	HOMETOWN	MAJOR	SPRING 2017	HOMETOWN	MAJOR
Thomas Carton (2020)	Chatham, NJ	Mech. Eng. & PDI	Mario Formisano (2020)	Kailua, HI	Computer Science
Jack Conlin (2020)	Morristown, NJ	Civil Engineering	Mark Kucy (2020)	Detroit, MI	Computer Science
Mike Levine (2020)	Plainview, NY	Mechanical Eng.	John Orozco (2020)	Chesapeake, VA	Mechanical Eng.
Caleb McGuire (2020)	Bristow, VA	Industrial Eng.	Collin Pounds (2020)	Columbia, MO	Nuclear Engineering
Ian Steenstra (2020)	Cape Cod, MA	Computer Sys. Eng.	Dhruv Rohatgi (2020)	San Mateo, CA	Computer Science
Nicholas Tull (2020)	Lebanon, PA	Aero. Engineering	Keenan Troddyn (2020)	Hollis, NH	Electrical Eng.
Edwin Wallis (2020)	London, England	Computer Science	Robbie Wismer (2020)	Malvern, PA	Mechanical Eng.
Dianyang Wang (2019)	Hong Kong, China	Mechanical Eng.			

Alumni Spotlight: Dang Vo '94

I recently had the pleasure in interviewing alumnus Dang Vo, who had one of the most interesting childhood journeys that led him to becoming a successful patent attorney in San Diego. Dang was born in Vietnam, but his family wanted to move to the United States for better opportunities. Being that it was a strict, communist regime, the government made it very difficult for Vietnam's citizens to immigrate. In 1982, at the age of 11, Dang successfully emigrated with his uncle, but had to first make stops in Malaysia and the Philippines before reaching the United States. During the trip from Vietnam to Malaysia, Dang's boat (which was four meters wide, 60 meters long that held 82 people) was attacked several times by various pirate boats, and witnessed many brutalities that an 11 year old should never have to see.

Six months after leaving Vietnam, Dang reached the U.S., and first lived in Houston with his uncle, but soon relocated to Connecticut, as he had an aunt who lived there, along with other family members. While he did live with family, Dang was unable to see his mother for another 10 years, as the immigration/sponsorship process took many years to complete. Despite not having his immediate family here, Dang was successful academically, and attended RPI as an Electrical Power Engineering student, while playing on the varsity soccer team and becoming a brother of our chapter.

After graduating and completing a co-op, Dang decided to pursue patent law as his career path. Dang remarked that when he came into RPI, his weakest subject was English, but pushed himself to make it a strength. As evidenced, he is now

prospering in the patent law field in San Diego, where he has lived with his family over the past 10 years.

Listening to Dang's story was definitely inspiring. Dang overcame many obstacles that most of us have never experienced, and this level of perseverance is a true testament to the character of a True Gentleman. We all wish Dang continued success, and hope he visits New York Epsilon very soon

Phi Alpha, Sam Krickellas '17



NYEP's Involvement in Community

NYEP continues to host the Boys Club Farkouh Field Days this past fall. We also participate with many of the Greek sponsored charity competitions. We even won the Myrtle Ave Chili Cookoff. There are many upcoming service opportunities that NY Epsilon will be participating in. Our True Gentleman Day of Service is Saturday April 21st, where brothers will be doing a service event that is based on Province Nu chapters. The brothers of SAE will be participating in and raising money

for Relay for Life, which is the weekend of March 31st. Several brothers will be participating in our annual event, Sigma Alpha Hair Salon, where brothers volunteer to have their haircut by the highest bidder. Here is a link to our Relay for Life page: http://main.acsevents.org/site/TR?team_id=2170816&pg=team&fr_id=79394&s_locale=en_US&et=20eE3ah4Nlt14xVGIAAn6Cg&s_tafid=1900974

Andrew Marino '17



Fall 2016 EDA, Zach Shearin '18, had fun at the bouncy house during Farkouh Field Day

More RPI Upheaval, VP Student Life Resigns

Effective March 8, the VP of Student Life Frank Ross resigned. He did have a tumultuous 2 years in office. RPI does not seem to be able to keep VP cabinet level officers or Deans around for more than 2-3 years for some reason (though many suspect they know the reason). The New Asst. VP Student Life Travis Apgar (the Greek Dean 12 years ago who returned after 10 yrs at Cornell) is stepping up to take on his duties

We did get a new Associate Dean of Greek Life in the fall, but she's still learning to communicate with the alumni groups. The AIGC has been working on this and a number of other issues for the Greek System.



Our brothers also actively participate in charity events held around campus, such as Alpha Phi's soccer tournament, Alpha

REUNION & HOMECOMING

October 12-15, 2017

Lambda Alpha Epsilon House Corporation News

The LAE House Corp has been making steady improvements to our beloved Chapter House such as a rebuild of the basement stairs and front door. Upcoming projects are fiber optic internet connections to RPI's network, further window replacement and grounds work.

We are conducting a feasibility study with the help of Pennington & Co. to address the major need of upcoming renovations or expansions.

Immediate and long term feedback to be a desirable location to live and house students has us looking at advances in technology integration coupled with more privacy, study and meeting space. An ever stricter inspection process and insurance regulations have us looking at sprinkler systems, wiring upgrades, ADA compliance, sound abatement, and clean-ability.

We hope to see a strong attendance this Fall for Alumni Weekend

in October! We promise big news as we look into the next century of SAE at RPI.

Don "Buck" Vanderhoef

LAE.Chairman@Gmail.com



Above: New stair hand rail and balusters were installed going to the basement

Spring Alumni Weekend: April 1-2

This Spring alumni weekend our tentative plan is to play golf and/or volleyball. Normally attendance is lower in the Spring, so things are more laid back. There will be food in the afternoon. We will hold our LAE board meeting on Saturday which will include some updates of the Phoenix Task Force for the future the NYEP Chapter house. Here's a rough schedule for the weekend:

Friday:

Welcome Home (BYOB)

Saturday:

Golf & Volleyball

BBQ during afternoon

LAE Board Meeting

Join the SAE RPI Alumni and Actives Facebook group for more frequent news. Please register for the upcoming Spring alumni weekend by going to the chapter website.

Fall 2017 Alumni Weekend: Oct 13-15

This Fall aims to be a large gathering of the 5 and 10 year class reunions. Already the Classes of 1967, 1972, 1992, 1997 are already making plans to come back. You can visit the RPI Reunion and Homecoming page to find out about hotels and other campus activities. We focus on having the annual LAE shareholders meeting and dinner on Saturday afternoon and Brunch on Sunday. With the expected large attendance, we may arrange for dinner not at the house. We will get RSVP and any fee schedule up later this spring and post to the facebook page and chapter website. We look forward to another great weekend!



Above: A relic from Senior Week for Class of 1992—not sure we can do that now

<<= Attendees anxious for dinner at Fall 2016 Alumni Weekend

Annual Phonathon April 2, 3, 4

LAE will be hosting the annual phonathon this year in early April, so if you see a 518-276-xxxx phone number or some random cell phone those nights between 7-9pm your time, it will be one of the undergrads reaching out to you. Last year we finished off the year with \$33,100 collected from 184 donors with an average donation of \$180. We are hoping to get back up to more than 200 donors with a targeted average donation of \$150. We do have the ability to take online donations if you visit the website. With the strong support from alumni over the years, we've been able to plan and pay for the annual maintenance and bigger renewal projects. We also fund the educational funds from which we send delegates to leadership school and sending the Eminent Archon to the EA Institute and a delegate to the Ritual Institute held at the Levere Memorial Temple. A new program supported by the class of 1972 was to use the James M. Joly Zeal Fund to create a library of books for brothers to use for their classes. Phi Alpha, Jerry Witter '82

Save the Date: Fall Alumni Weekend - October 13-15