

the PLUME

THE TAU EPSILON PHI FRATERNITY

Volume 79 Issue 1

Winter 2021



The Consul's Corner



The picture above is from the Epsilon Kappa chapter at Tulane University in the fall of 1977. I recently found it in a yearbook and it brought back many good memories of my time as an undergraduate. Those years formed who I am and much of what I have done in my life. I am still friends and in touch with many of the people in this picture. When someone asks me what Tau Epsilon Phi means to me, I answer "Friendship". Why do I and other leaders continue to serve the Fraternity? We are trying to ensure that young men can have the same type of experience that we had while in college.

I was elected Consul of Tau Epsilon Phi in October. Fortunately I follow Kirill Reznik, who advanced our Fraternity during his tenure. Kirill laid the groundwork for TEP's future by hiring an Executive Director for the first time since 2010, enabling us to run the organization as a business. He was also passionate about expanding the Fraternity. We have added new colonies during his tenure and have a road map for adding more over the next few years. Kirill is staying on the Grand Council and he has agreed to continue working on expansion.

As those of you who attended the 2020 Grand Chapter meeting know it was conducted virtually for the first time. Under this format more alumni were able to attend than any time since the 1990's. Brother Leo Gordon, a former Consul, led the meeting as Grand Chancellor and we got to hear from a number of former Consuls including Bud Schiff, Gerry Denmark, Stu Blumberg and Al Versacci. For me it was especially meaningful because these were the people running Tau Epsilon Phi when I was an undergraduate and young alumnus.

The Consul's Corner

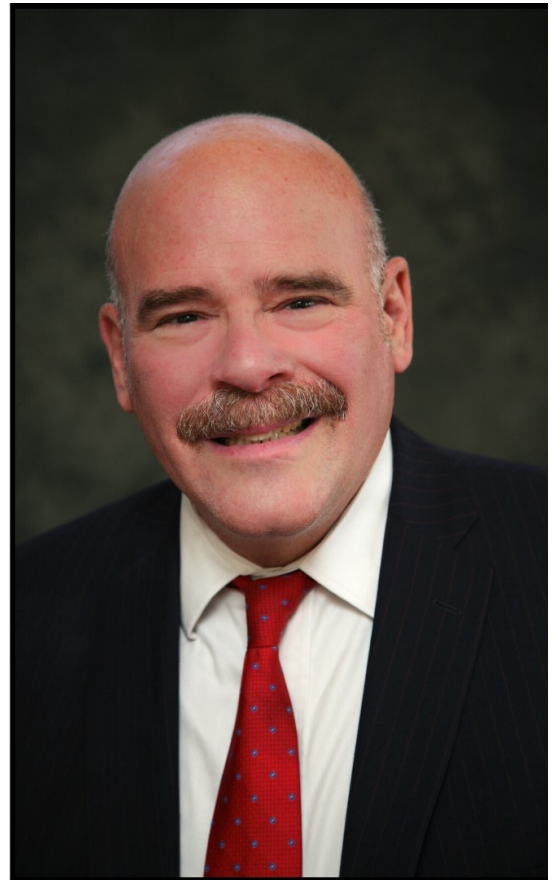
Like everyone else we are dealing with the effects of COVID-19. In the spring of 2020 campuses were shut down and chapters had to adjust to running virtually. Classes, parties, road trips, meetings and even eating dinner together were no longer possible. Instead Chancellors and Executive Boards had to learn how to run their chapters virtually and try to keep their brotherhood engaged. Our field representatives, Nick Dondiego and Jake Corter, worked with chapter leadership on ways to reach out to their brothers and try to make fraternity life relevant.

After being dormant for three years the Tau Alpha chapter at the University of Florida came back with a pledge class of sixty this fall! The alumni of this chapter did an amazing job of recruiting from various networks. They came up with a code of conduct that the brothers must follow and initiated their pledges in early November. It took a group effort to be so successful and I must commend Rick Freedman for organizing the Tau Alpha alumni. It was a group effort and we are proud to welcome them back!

It looks like the entire 2020 – 2021 school year will be run under COVID-19 rules. We are doing everything we can to help our chapters until this crisis is over.

Stay safe and TEPs are tops and always will be.

-Mark Abramson, Newly Elected Consul



The PLUME

IN THIS ISSUE:

- 2 Consul's Corner
- 5 Alumni Call to Action
- 6 Shop TEP
- 7 Social Media Highlights
- 11 Convention 2020
- 13 Awards
- 19 TEΦ History
- 20 TEΦ Composites
- 21 New Grand Council
- 26 Words from the outgoing Grand Council
- 27 The Bridge Builder
- 28 Staff Updates
- 34 UF Expansion
- 36 Alumni Throwback
- 37 Undergraduate Reports
- 51 Undergraduate Resources
- 53 Tau Epsilon Phi Art
- 54 Chapter Eternal Brothers
- 56 From the Editor
- 57 National Directory
- 58 Ad Program

ON THE COVER:

Our Tau Alpha group in their chapter house re-establishing their brotherhood since their closure in 2017.

FOR ONLINE NEWS:

www.tep.org

www.facebook.com/TepFraternity

www.linkedin.com/groups/41245

www.twitter.com/teptraternity

www.instagram.com/teptraternity



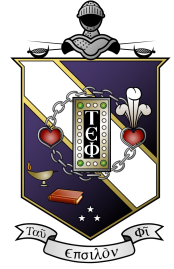
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Alumni



When exiting your formative ΤΕΦ years as an undergraduate many members and groups struggle with their role as an alumnus. What do you do now? Do I go about my business and move on? Do I join my alumni association if my chapter has one?

These are all great questions and your first steps moving from the very structured style that is being an undergraduate of a chapter.

Sadly most alumni don't come back to their chapters in these times or help nurture the experience they were so fortunate to have. However, the truth is, it is not only your duty to give back but it is our job to work with you to help you make those steps.

By reading this page, you are taking that first step and by having this conversation with our staff and Grand Council members we hopefully can put you in the right direction.

Ways You Can Help

- 1) We need alumni to help with for our expansion efforts. Universities today are more stringent on how we can open a chapter on a new campus or one we have previously been on. We need alumni advisors, and by simply throwing your location and hat in the ring we can create a database of alumni willing to be advisors and nurture our future brotherhood.
- 2) We can get you in contact with your chapter or alumni association to participate as an alumnus. Remembering great times with your brothers is a breath of fresh air and sadly those times may not come back. Starting a new page in your journey after college with your chapter is by creating new memories by attending homecomings, alumni chapter events, recruitment events or going out with some alumni nearby for some appetizers and drinks.
- 3) Inform us of your kids or friends that are coming to any of our designated schools, we can let our chapters know to recruit those quality men.

OUR GOAL:

We want to see alumni engagement increase and we will be sure to find new ways to help our goal. The first steps for us is to connect you with your chapter and find ways to help the ones to come.

SHOP TEP

Shop
TEΦ

BROWSE THE COLLECTION



TAU EPSILON PHI

RUSH
COLLECTION



SEE MORE >>

Brand new Items added every semester

Shoptep.com



Capsule Hooded Sweatshirt

GreekGear

\$40.00



Bonfire Baja Hood

GreekGear

\$39.99



Flag 3x5 Feet

GreekLife.Store

\$28.98

Social Media Highlights



 @tep_ed

Florida State Univ.

Special Meet the brother shout-out to our awesome Chancellor for being named director of ops for FSU's Medical Response Unit! @jonah_anderson_ "aside from Chancellor, I'm a licensed EMT, and the Director of Operations for The FSU Medical Response Unit. I'm very thankful for Tau Epsilon Phi and all the lifelong relationships I've made with my brothers. I'm passionate about being a leader and I am always available to help anyone" #tepsaretops #tep



 @ru.tep

Rutgers - New Brunswick

Last game day with pizza courtesy @ru_greek

-

-

-

#gameday #rurahrah
#stayhome #TEΦ



 @clarksontep

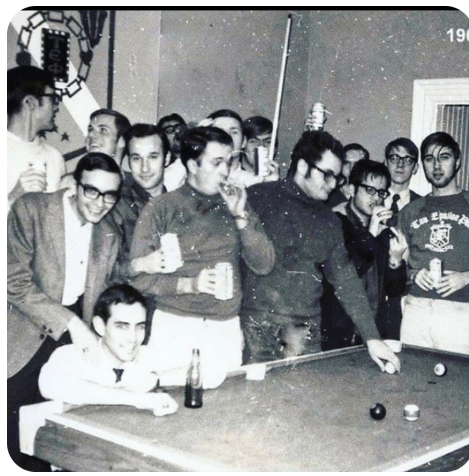
Clarkson Univ.

Friday the 13th calls for some polished pictures of the house with the newly painted letters.
#tepfrideays #teptalks



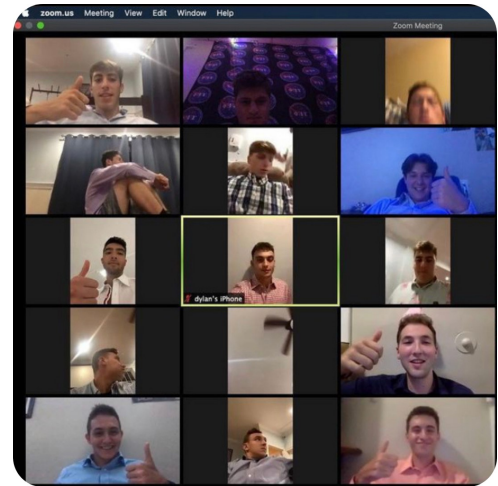
 **@tepbuffalo**
SUNY – Buffalo

Thank you to everyone who donated to our canned food drive! We were able to donate 183lbs of canned food and non-perishables to FeedMoreWNY. Also shoutout to our philanthropy chair, Brother Crummy for organizing this drive.
#TEΦ #service #feedmorewny



 **@tep_ruc**
Rutgers - Camden

#waybackwednesday to '69 a time when Men drank what was obviously soda and always Rushed TEP
OGs Camden Circa 1969
#Rushtep #tepdoes #Tephistory
#ruc #rutgers2024 #Camden



 **@tep_umd**
Univ. of Maryland

Congratulations to our Beta Delta new member class for finally finishing their virtual new member program and initiation last night. Welcome to the brotherhood!
#tep #initiation #socialdistancing



 **@uncwtep**
UNCW

Dear freshmen... it's a sign.
#rushtep



 **@psu_tep**
Penn State Univ.

Come out Wednesday the 29th for our zoneday. Get to meet all the brother and take a tour around the house. Hope to see many of you there!



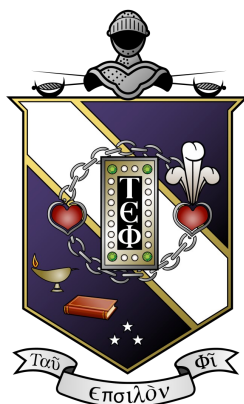
 **@tepuf**
Univ. of Florida

Good things come to those who wait



 **@tepupenn**
Univ. of Pennsylvania

Welcome to the official Instagram of the Rho chapter of Tau Epsilon Phi at the University of Pennsylvania! Follow us for updates on rush and information on all the fun events we host throughout the year (once it's safe to do so of course).



 **@tep_uri**

Univ. Rhode Island
Informal Interviews 5PM-7PM tomorrow via Zoom. Informal as in you don't have to look this spiffy. Link in our bio. Tell your friends to rush the best. See you tomorrow.

Tau Epsilon Phi
Virtual 5K
for Humanitarian
Relief in Yemen



A Community Effort
Open to All
Sept. 12

 **@rowantep**
Rowan Univ.

This September, our community is coming together to support the Yemen Humanitarian Crises. Please read this and reach out to see how you can help. Over the next month we will be supporting all the contestants on social media and working with project hope to do the most we can for the people of Yemen.



 **@tepjwu**

Johnson & Wales

Happy 2nd Anniversary to our amazing Sweetheart Kraus! We love you! #sweetheart#tepllove #chivalry #tauboy



@tepstagram_rpi Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

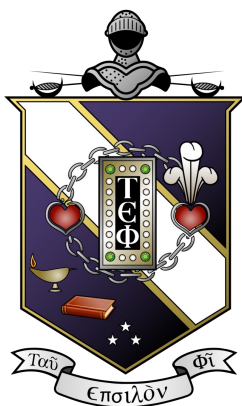
Today the virtual tep5k took place and was a huge success! Our team raised \$435 dollars while in total seven thousand dollars was raised through #tep5k Thank you to everyone who donated.



@tep_ualbany

Univ. at Albany

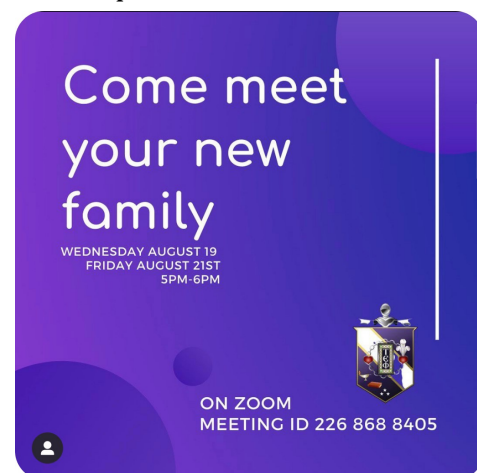
Congratulations to our graduating seniors! Best of luck I your future careers and we hope to see you during alumni weekend next semester. Once a TEP always a TEP. #tauboy



@tepindiana Indiana Univ.

Brother Spotlight

Max is a rising sophomore studying Sports Marketing and Management in the Indiana University School of Public Health. Max also works as a manager for IU Basketball, and in his free time likes to compete with the club track team, volunteer at IU Hillel and eat pizza rolls.



@tephofstra Hofstra Univ.

TODAY TODAY TODAY "TEP isn't just a fraternity, it is a family"

#Tauepsilonphi #tephu #tep

CONVENTION 2020


Virtual Recap

The 2020 Grand Chapter was obviously different this year than any other year prior. We had our first virtual Grand Chapter in our history this past October. Sadly many of the activities and leadership development programs we usually conduct at Grand Chapter were cancelled. However, we have had the highest alumni attendance and engagement for a Grand Chapter since before the 2000's.



Before the official event, the Grand Council also hosted a virtual alumni mixer where members could connect with one another. Alumni caught up and younger alumni mixed with older members hearing stories from the past and present. This event was so well received we have decided to host this multiple times throughout the year to reconnect and catch up! As everyone knows elections happen every Grand Chapter and this year we are proud and happy to have the new Grand Council start their tenure. Thank you to all of the candidates who stepped forward and the chapters involvement in this process. Multiple topics were explored and discussed regarding fraternal activities. One of which allows us now to have virtual meetings such as this for our future so we can always continue the tradition and necessity that is Grand Chapter. Our keynote speaker was David Saperstein who gave an inspirational and on tone speech for today's age. He did a phenomenal job showing what it means to be a TEP.

The award ceremony was full of smiles and great responses as undergraduates and alumni gave short speeches about their awards. We are proud to still continue this tradition and to have the awards to give. As we were closing, the outgoing Grand Council gave their final remarks and wished the best for the next steps of the fraternity. We left the meeting with high hopes and ideas for expansion and retention of our membership. We will strive to further connect with one another and open as many doors as possible for the future prosperity of Tau Epsilon Phi.




Keynote Speaker

The Honorable Rabbi David Saperstein

- United States Ambassador-at-Large for International Religious Freedom (2015 – 2017)
- Senior Advisor for Policy and Strategy – Religious Action Center
- Adjunct Professor – Georgetown University Law Center
- Member of Delta Chapter at Cornell University Class of 1969



Session Will Resume at 2 PM EDT



Meritorious Service Keys

Awarded by the Grand Council to Undergraduate or Alumni members who have performed Meritorious Service.

- Steve Aisenberg (Tau Beta)**
- JR Benning (Sigma)**
- Josh Frieser (Gamma Tau)**

-Highlighted photos from Grand Chapter 2020

TEΦ AWARD RECIPIENTS

SIDNEY S. SUNTAG TEP MAN OF THE YEAR

David Saperstein, Delta, Cornell University

ISRAEL “DOC” SCHWARTZ MEMORIAL UNDERGRADUATE OF THE YEAR

Randy Sinnot, Sigma Epsilon, Rutgers University at Camden

CONSUL’S RECOGNITION PINS

Gene Benator, Nu, University of Georgia

Rick Bernstein, Nu, University of Georgia

MERITORIUS SERVICE AWARD KEYS

Steve Aisenberg, Tau Beta, University of Maryland

JR Benning, Sigma, Syracuse University

Josh Frieser, Gamma Tau, Indiana University

CHANCELLOR’S KEYS

Brian Deyo, Epsilon Iota, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

Bradley Shanker, Nu, University of Georgia

LEO M. GORDAN EXCEPTIONAL GREEK PROFESSIONAL AWARD

Craig Rowley Assistant Director of Greek Life at Indiana University

GERALD A. DENMARK COLONY OF THE YEAR

Alpha Sigma Colony State University of New York at Albany

ALBERT “BUD” SCHIFF OUTSTANDING RUSH AWARD

Fall 2019 - Gamma Tau Indiana University

Spring 2020 - Epsilon Iota RPI & Phi Upsilon University at Buffalo

TEΦ AWARD RECIPIENTS

**DAVID C. STEINBERG MOST SCHOLASTICALLY
IMPROVED CHAPTER AWARD**

Sigma Epsilon Chapter Rutgers University at Camden

LOUIS S. LEBENTHAL MOST IMPROVED CHAPTER AWARD

Alpha Tau Chapter Rowan University

LOUIS FEIN COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

Omega Alpha Chapter Johnson & Wales University

Most Community Service Hours

Epsilon Phi Colony Pennsylvania State University

Most Funds Raised

CHARLES M. DRIESEN OUTSTANDING CHAPTER AWARD

Sigma Epsilon Chapter Rutgers University at Camden

**THE TAU EPSILON PHI AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN
COMMUNITY SERVICE**

Steven Appelbaum, Psi, University of Illinois

Gary Lawson, Epsilon Theta, Queens College

Nick Pitillo, Epsilon Nu, Rochester Institute of Technology

Stan Samuelson, Epsilon Iota, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

ALFRED C. VERSACCI BRIDGE BUILDER AWARD

John Lindsey, Sigma Epsilon, Rutgers University at Camden

MICHAEL C.C. LILIENFELD

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS AWARD

Darric "DJ" Jones, Omega Alpha, Johnson & Wales University

ISRAEL “DOC” SCHWARTZ MEMORIAL UNDERGRADUATE OF THE YEAR

This award is named in honor of Alpha #1. It is awarded annually to the Fraternity's outstanding undergraduate. This prestigious award is given to the man who best exemplifies the spirit of the philosophy and creed as first envisioned in 1910 by the Founding Fathers of the Fraternity.



TEP UNDERGRADUATE OF THE YEAR

Randy Sinnot of our Sigma Epsilon Chapter of Rutgers University at Camden is the Undergraduate of the year. This is the highest honor that can be bestowed upon an undergraduate of the fraternity. Brother Sinnot is a first generation college student in his family as a finance major with numerous scholastic and fraternal achievements. Randy served on Student Government Association (SGA), founded the club lacrosse team and continues his high GPA standard.

Randy is the Chancellor of his chapter and previously served on the executive board in a multitude of positions. Randy pushed his chapter to fraternal excellence gaining the highest performance evaluation from our staff. Randy set his chapter to a higher standard through continuous meetings, committee creations, reviewing internal documents and expanding on chapter outreach to their campus. Some of his accomplishments include starting the chapter's first emergency fund, revitalizing social media, and fostering multiple fundraising events such as the cleaning of a cliff jumping spot.

Brother Sinnot was even awarded by his own chapter in the fall of 2020 as an emerging fraternal leader and in 2019 was elected with the most outstanding campus involvement by the Sigma Epsilon chapter.

SIDNEY S. SUNTAG

TEP MAN OF THE YEAR

**Presented to an Alumnus who has distinguished himself in his
chosen field of endeavor and/or has performed memorable
Service to his community.**



TEP MAN OF THE YEAR

David Saperstein originates from our Delta Chapter at Cornell University. Brother Saperstein is an American Rabbi, lawyer and served as the United States Ambassador-at-Large for International Religious Freedom during the Obama administration from 2015 - 2017. David was the first non-Christian to hold this position and as a Jewish community leader he time and time again shows us what it means to be a brother of Tau Epsilon Phi. David now joins the ranks of the few who have ever been awarded this accomplishment and his fraternity could not be prouder.

Thank you Brother Sapersein for being a shining example of what it means to enter the portals of Tau Epsilon Phi and to keep building the bridge for those who come after us.

This award is the most prestigious accolade a brother of Tau Epsilon phi can receive and we are proud to call David TEP man of the year.

THE TAU EPSILON PHI AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN COMMUNITY SERVICE

Steven Appelbaum was nominated by Michael “Moe” Howard from the Psi Chapter at the University of Illinois for his years of service and humanitarianism. This year in particular, toward the beginning of the COVID-19 crisis, Steven’s shifted his company’s textile and bedding production to instead produce personal protective equipment to help bridge the shortage and donated thousands of masks to healthcare workers, the Chicago Police Department, and the community at large.

Gary Lawson was nominated by Philip Dolen from the Epsilon Theta Chapter at Queens College for many years of work dedicated to serving disabled US military veterans and first responders. In 2008, Gary co-founded Independence Corps with the mission to “restore the freedom and dignity of mobility to our nation’s wounded disabled veterans.” After years of providing mobility systems for wounded servicemen and women, Independence Corps as of 2020 now provides iBOT® Mobility System and Track Chairs to police officers and fire fighters injured in the line of duty. Independence Corps also provides services like Spartan Weekend networking and suicide prevention events for injured veterans and their caregivers.

Gary has served on the board of FIRST Texas, the Texas affiliate of FIRST Robotics, promoting Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics (STEM) education in public schools, as well as on the board of Snowball Express, providing special events for children who have lost a parent who served in the US military since 9/11. In 2018, Gary helped found and today serves on the board of the Tribute to Valor Foundation as an all-volunteer organization focused on influencing, impacting and inspiring students involved in STEM curriculum. Their mission is to help these students understand and engage the values of the Medal of Honor; Courage, Sacrifice, Patriotism, Citizenship, Integrity and Commitment.

THE TAU EPSILON PHI AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN COMMUNITY SERVICE

Nick Pitillo was nominated by Bruce Rosenstein of Epsilon Nu, Nick and his wife Kendra, the owners of Osteria 166 (Buffalo, NY) and Villaggio (Ellicottville, NY), started StockTheFreezer.com in March 2020 as a response to the changing world caused by the COVID-19 crisis.

The Pitillo's wanted to help feed people in the Western New York area that needed it and created a vehicle for customers where they can "Donate a meal." The donate a meal portion of the site became one of the most popular features and in the first three weeks of operation, more than 12,000 meals were donated.

Stan Samuelson lost his battle with COVID-19 on April 21, 2020. Nominated by his older and taller little brother, Michael Auerbach from the Epsilon Iota Chapter at RPI, Stan is remembered for initiating, organizing, and participating in many events in service of Judaic rights, human rights, gay rights, education and racial minority rights.

Stan was a long-time ally of the Massachusetts LGBTQ Community. He retired from teaching high school math in 2014 and since 2017, he served as Cape Cod PRIDE's liaison to the Cape's Gay-Straight Alliances. In honor of Stan's life and work, Cape Cod PRIDE has created the Stan Samuelson Scholarship Fund to support LGBTQ high school students of the Cape and Islands.

Having been a member of the Falmouth Jewish Congregation's Social Justice Committee before his untimely death, the congregation credits Stan for having played a huge role in revitalizing Cape Cod's PRIDE Month celebration and encouraging the congregation to acquire and display a series of posters honoring significant LGBTQ Jews. A consistent thread among many comments left on his Facebook page by people whose lives Stan touched was his striking humanity. "Stan the Man," was known as "towering in body, character and life. In addition to rocking a bowtie like no other, he was exceptionally warm – doling out bear hugs when you needed them most." He will be sorely missed.

TEΦ History

Will You Help Preserve our Legacy?



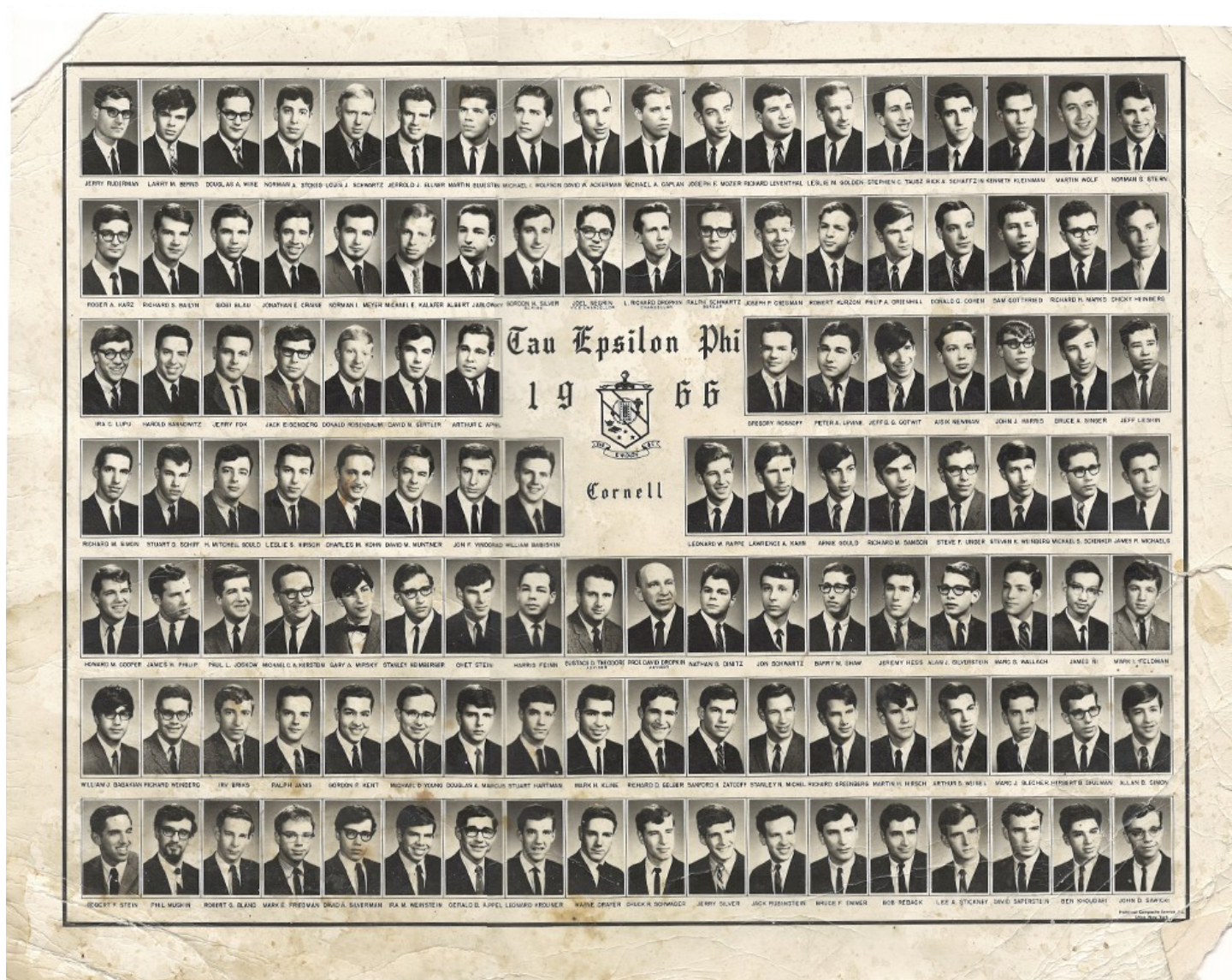
After much effort and photo editing we were able to restore this photo and now use it for whatever needs the fraternity has. Not only is this a sacred piece of history to be kept in our records, texts and showcased in articles such as this, but now our undergraduates will have a common founders photo. They can use this in their marketing efforts, meet the brothers events, and in their new member education slides for future brothers who build the bridge.

A passion project of our staff is to restore and preserve any and all Tau Epsilon Phi history. On the following page you will see more of that effort with a composite from our dormant Cornell chapter. After going through our storage locker from the TEΦ HQ, hundreds of composites, historical photos and old chapter reports were found. Our staff members are looking for more and still are going through many of the items we found.

If you or anyone you know from your chapter has historical documents, photos, composites or anything else they would like to submit. We implore you to email nick@tep.org. He will work to put them up on our website, social media or put it right here in the Plume!

TEΦ Historical Composites

Submit Composites to nick@tep.org



Cornell 1966 composite recovered from **Brother Harold Sasnowitz, Delta 691**

We currently add a new set of chapter composites from our records weekly. Many of our current digital composites are from our archives. The staff want to inform our brotherhood that they are at the end of our supply now and will be relying on alumni and undergraduate submissions to preserve the records of our fraternal history. Please send to nick@tep.org any and all Tau Epsilon Phi history! The following link will lead you to the digital composites on our site.

<https://tep.org/composites/>

Meet the Grand Council

Remarks from the Brothers Elected to Service



First Vice-Consul

JR Benning joined Tau Epsilon Phi Fraternity in the Fall of 1989 when he was initiated into the Sigma Chapter at Syracuse University (SU). JR graduated from SU in December of 1992 with a Bachelors of Science degree in Computer Engineering. He later went on to receive a Masters in Business Administration from Villanova University in 2003.

During his nearly 3 decades in the software industry, JR has founded 2 profitable businesses — one of which he successfully lead to acquisition in 2015.

As an undergraduate, JR held the executive position of chapter Treasurer. In 2014, JR was elected to the Grand Council as 2nd Vice Consul. During his tenure, JR designed the modern version of the fraternity crest, used to this day. JR lives outside of Philadelphia with his wife Jean and 3 daughters Tara, Emma, and Paige (whose initials coincidentally spell out T.E.P.)



Second Vice-Consul

Mr. Joel Kanter has served as President of Windy City, Inc., a privately held investment firm, since July 1986. From 1989 to November 1999, Mr. Kanter served as the President, and subsequently as the President and Chief Executive Officer of Walnut Financial Services, Inc., a publicly traded company (Nasdaq: WNUT). Walnut Financial's primary business focus was the provision of various forms of financing to small business including equity financing to start-up and early stage development companies, bridge financing to small and medium-sized companies, and later stage institutional financing to mature enterprises.

At Tulane University, Mr. Kanter was very involved with the Fraternity, holding various offices, and living in the TEP House for 2.5 years. He still counts a number of his Fraternity Brothers as among his closest friends.

Mr Kanter is also involved in a number of philanthropic ventures including being a Trustee Emeritus and past President of the Board of Trustees of The Langley School in McLean, Virginia, a former Trustee at the Georgetown Day School in Washington, D.C., and of the Union Institute & University, the Country's first Online University. He is also the current Board Chair of the Black Student Fund, and the Coalition To Stop Gun Violence, and serves on the Kennedy Center's National Committee on the Performing Arts, as well as on the Board of Voices for Progress.



Vice-Consul
for Undergraduate Affairs

Matthew "Matt" Tursi joined the Tau Epsilon Phi Fraternity in the Spring of 2016 at Hofstra University's Sigma Alpha Sigma Chapter. At Hofstra, Matt was a Music Business Major and earned a four-year scholarship for playing trombone. In fact, in one semester he played in as many as nine different ensembles. Matt served as the Secretary of the Music and Entertainment Industry Student Association (MEISA) for two years (Fall 2017-Spring 2019). Through his major, he interned and worked in marketing for The Nassau Coliseum, KORG USA, Sony Music, and Legacy Recordings. He earned his Bachelor of Science degree for Music Business in May of 2019. For his TEP Chapter, Matt served as Scribe (Spring 2018) and Chancellor (Fall 2018-Spring 2019). During his tenure as Chancellor, his Chapter was nominated for Greek Organization of the year. And in the Spring of 2019, Matt was awarded the Greek Leader of the Year award.

Matt spends most of his day pursuing a career as an actor. He makes his living by owning his own DJ entertainment business, photography business, and is a Legal Videographer. During his (limited) free time, Matt still plays his trombone, as well as numerous other instruments. Ever since going to the Grand Chapter in 2018, Matt has been wanting to play a bigger role and help Tau Epsilon Phi in any way he can. He is excited to be serving as the Vice Consul for Undergraduate Affairs.



Quaestor

Donald Anspauch, Jr. rushed Tau Epsilon Phi Fraternity in the spring of 1975, pledged and was initiated into the Epsilon Phi Chapter at Pennsylvania State University. He served as Rush Chairman and Scribe for the local chapter. He helped coordinate a chapter visit by Sidney S. Suntag and then acting Executive Director, George Mamo. After graduation was the Epsilon Phi Alumni President. In 1979, he attended his first Grand Chapter meeting and was elected a member-at-large. He continued his involvement on Grand Council serving over the years as Regional Governor of the West Coast Chapters, Second Vice Consul, First Vice Council and Member at Large.

He was elected as the President of the Tau Epsilon Phi Foundation, in 1999 and developed programing to encourage TEP Alumni to continue to support the Foundation thru tax deductible contributions.

In 2011, he was called upon to assist the Fraternity and Foundation's reorganization and funded the revitalization of the TEP Foundation.



Tribune

Mark Gardner was elected to Tribune (Secretary) at the 2020 Virtual Grand Chapter in October 2020. Prior to that Mark served as a Director by filling a vacancy on the Grand Council in May, 2019.

Mark was a theater major at The City College of New York in Fall 1996 when one of his cast-mates in a campus show invited him for a bite to eat after rehearsal. Little did he know that he was walking into a Rush event for the Phi Chi Chapter where he would meet a whole group of people who would become his brothers by the end of that semester and among his best friends for decades to come. Mark served his chapter as Bursar, Vice-Chancellor and Chancellor before leaving in 1999 to build a career in information technology management at CIBC World Markets. Years later, Mark returned to his passion at CCNY to finish his theater degree studies, earning his Bachelor of Arts in 2010. He earned his Master of Fine Arts in Theater at Northern Illinois University in 2013.

Mark lives in Manhattan with his husband Brian and their attack-Dachshund Max. He continues to mentor TEP undergraduate members at CCNY and currently serves as President of the chapter's Alumni Club. He is an avid cook and as a result, feigns excitement for going to the gym.



Director

Michael Auerbach joined Tau Epsilon Phi Fraternity in the Spring of 1966 when he was initiated into the Epsilon Iota Chapter at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. Michael graduated in June 1970 with a Bachelors of Architecture. As an undergraduate Michael served as Interfraternity Athletics Chair and various other fraternity house positions.

He has made a conscious and continuous effort to remain in contact with fraternity brothers and classmates over the years arranging reunions and other social events.



Director

Kenneth Hurtado, more widely known as “Gerk,” had previously served on the Board as International Praetor on the Interim Grand Council in 2011, then was elected to serve in the same position at the 2011 and 2013 Grand Chapter Conventions. In 2016, he was elected to serve as a Member-at-Large, and after a brief hiatus, he returns to the Grand Council to fill a vacant seat as a Director.

Kenneth joined Tau Epsilon Phi in the Fall of 1987 when he was initiated into the Epsilon Lambda Chapter at The City College of New York in Harlem, NY where he graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology. After the Epsilon Lambda Chapter closed its doors, he remained as an active member in the newly formed Phi Chi Chapter until graduation, through to the founding of the Phi Chi Alumni Club. For many years, he has served as the Phi Chi Chapter’s adviser, and for a time, served as chapter adviser to the Epsilon Theta Chapter at Queens College.

A proud moment for Kenneth was when he saw his son, Daniel, follow in his footsteps being initiated into the Phi Chi Chapter at The City College of New York in Fall of 2018. For the last 20+ years, Kenneth has been working within Adult Education and Back-to-Work training programs teaching computer application skills, job search techniques and soft skills.



Director

Alan Prather is a new addition to the Grand Council and it is the start of his career working with the National Fraternity. Alan has been an advocate for giving back to the students and is excited to start his journey with us.

Alan takes great pride in having kept our values of Friendship, Chivalry and Service at his core. He is the Founder of three Tech companies, AppFormance, OarVia and now WalkBot, a Consumer Mobile Robotics company. A charitable wing of the company will be focused on rescue animals and other charitable causes like the ASPCA.

Alan joined the Tau Delta Chapter at Ohio State University in 1997. Pin #620.



Director

Marc Tolman Joined Tau Epsilon Phi Fraternity in the Spring of 1988 when he was initiated as a Re-Founding Father into the Epsilon Theta Chapter at Queens College in Queens, New York. While he was active, he held various positions that included Vice-Chancellor, Bursar, and Scribe.

Marc was a Trustee for the TEP Foundation for the last seven years, where he was also a past president. He has been an active alumnus, both locally and nationally, for over the past twenty-five years. He was Alumni Advisor to his chapter for many years and played an integral role in the establishment of the local alumni chapter. He has held various national positions, to include Director, Regional Governor, and Vice-Consul on the Interim Grand Council (IGC) that was established after the lawsuits.



Director

Charles Wolf joined Tau Epsilon Phi Fraternity in Spring 1974 when he was initiated into the Epsilon Nu Chapter at Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) in Rochester, NY. Charles graduated from RIT in May 1978 with a Bachelors of Science Degree in Photographic Marketing Management.

Following graduation, Charles went to work for Eastman Kodak as a Technical Sales Representative in Kodak's Professional Photography Division. After nine months of accelerated training at Kodak's Marketing Education Center in Rochester, NY, Charles was assigned a New York City territory in Manhattan's "Photo District."

Charles initially was elected to the Grand Council in 2011 as the Second Vice-Consul, was elected again in 2013 as a Member-at-Large, and again in 2016 and 2018 as Second Vice-Consul and in 2020 as a Director. Charles is a Parliamentarian, which he puts to use for TEΦ.

Charles was a professional photographer at the age of 18 and still enjoys photography. He earned his private pilot's license in 1975, loves sailing, studies wine, and loves good food. Charles lives in Greenwich Village, New York City.

The Outgoing Grand Council

Words of Thanks from the Past Two Years



First Grand Council meeting in New York, NY
January 2019

Dear Brothers,

It has been an honor and a privilege to serve you for the last two years as International Consul. We have accomplished a lot in that time, from expanding to new campuses to providing for new services to existing undergraduate and alumni brothers. The last two years have shown me that there is nothing that we cannot do as a Brotherhood if we work together and keep our goals in sight. We have also been witness in an unprecedented pandemic that has taken hundreds of thousands of lives. It also slowed down our growth and progress. It is my hope that 2021 will see the end of the pandemic and we can, under Consul Mark Abramson, return to our previous progress.

I'm honored to be able to pass the baton to Mark and to take up a new title as Immediate Past Consul, and to head up our Expansion efforts on the Grand Council.

-Kirill Reznik, Immediate Past Consul



The Bridge Builder



The Bridge Builder article is meant to highlight alumni accomplishments in personal, professional or fraternal excellence. Brother Oak Miller pledged in 1999 at the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute Epsilon Iota chapter. Brother Miller completed the O Caminho da Fé trail spanning 497 kilometers. Brother Miller is passionate about health and traveling to places he's never been and to see them with his own two feet. He picked up this hobby after his son was born and never stopped moving. Oak said that each new distance is also a test of endurance for him to see how far he can take his body to push past the limits of what he can do. Him and his friends even found a way to make their trail even longer to the extent of 567kilometers. This is a brother of determination and passion, traits in each of our brothers that are exemplified with great efforts. Brother Miller wanted to highlight that his hobby is something everyone can do. You do have to train but you do not have to be someone who makes this their career or come from a background of intensive physical activity, most of the struggle is all mental. If you are interested in Brother Millers efforts email him at milleo@gmail.com.

The next steps for our brother are to take on the Canadian boarder in Quebec to the Massachusetts boarder in Vermont long trail. Brother Miller also reflected on his chapter; he thinks they're doing well and he last visited Epsilon Iota in 2017. He is exited to hear what they've been doing and accomplishing especially during the pandemic . He loves that so many of his brothers are in the capital region of New York, right outside of Troy for him to easily visit when he can travel.

News from your Staff

Executive Director

First, I hope you all are doing well and staying safe. Following the recent holidays and the start of a new year, the COVID-19 pandemic has hit all-time highs in terms of infected individuals and daily death rates. We all long for the days of returning to some sense of normalcy and the ability to easily be with our loved ones and friends. We also long for the ability to travel without having to worry about the virus or quarantining. Now that a vaccine is being distributed I am hopeful that in the coming months, we will begin to see these numbers lower and this challenge to our daily lives will begin to fade away into history. I am cautiously optimistic that by this coming fall, most if not all college campuses will have a plan in place to make sure their students are vaccinated. This would hopefully allow that sense of normalcy that we all crave. Only time will tell and I am hopeful for the future while remaining concerned about the present.

This past fall was one of the most challenging for our fraternity. Many of our campuses saw outbreaks of the virus and several had to pivot from attending in person classes to staying in their chapter house, apartment or dorm to learn remotely. That is if in person classes were even offered in the first place. I participated in spirited debates and discussions whether students should be sent home or remain hunkered down on campus. We also saw the unfortunate decision from some of our members to take the semester off due to the virus. The virus even caused a few of our groups to not rush and recruit due to safety reasons. They were steadfast in their conviction of needing to meet people in person before extending them a bid. Others embraced the challenge and saw their numbers grow while implementing virtual candidate programs. Even further we adapted and conducted virtual initiation ceremonies at some campuses as their new members weren't physically in the same town or state as the chapter. I am so very proud of those groups that were willing to do things differently for their overall wellbeing and longevity. I also take nothing away from those who choose not to move forward, but I am rightly concerned about potential long-term effects from those decisions. I would also be remiss if I didn't acknowledge and recognize the success of the men who lead the return of Tau Alpha at the University of Florida. I'd like to thank Rick Freedmen who coordinated his alumni and the six returning men from the fall 2017 semester who were able to rush and recruit a 60-man class. It just shows you what can be accomplished when you put the time and effort into it.

News from your Staff

This past fall we were all looking forward to gathering in Charlotte, North Carolina for our biennial Grand Chapter & Convention. Unfortunately like all things this year, those plans had to be scrapped. We did however arrange for our first virtual Grand Chapter. This unique event permitted over 90 undergraduates and alumni to return together to conduct the important work of the fraternity, be it adopting legislative changes, electing a new Grand Council and even celebrating the success of our chapters and members. A special thanks go out to all our past Consuls for being in attendance. It was the first time in many years that some were able to participate. It was a great to have their support and guidance. Additionally, many thanks go to our Brother, The Honorable David Saperstein who served as our keynote speaker. He was honored and humbled when Consul Reznik awarded him the Sidney S. Suntag – TEP Man of the Year Award. That is the highest award the fraternity can bestow upon a Brother.

Again, I wish you all the best and sincerely hope you all stay happy and healthy. If there is anything we can do for you, please don't hesitate to reach out. I always enjoy getting to talk with our Brothers.

-Timothy Smith, Executive Director



News from your Staff

Associate Director of Chapter Services

We have come a long way haven't we? This phrase was etched into my brain at the beginning of this pandemic when I was still traveling to chapters and preparing for my last visits from my first year as your Chapter Services Consultant. A goal of mine as an undergrad was to visit all of our different chapters and connect to brothers across the country. This came from my candidate education process when I met Oscar "Nacho" Omigan, a brother from Phi Chi at the City College of New York. He said to me anywhere you go that there's a TEP house you have a place to go. That meant the world to me that our brotherhood is that strong, when I learned of the events from taking TEP back, I learned that our brotherhood is resilient. When I graduated and got the job as a staff member I learned that TEP prospers even in the harshest of environments and especially after the hardest of struggles. TEP DOES, a call to action alumni and undergrads use to push us to excellence, it's being used right now by every undergraduate of our fraternity. These men do not sit idling hoping for change, they find a way to adapt and overcome. To prosper in the most difficult situation the entire Greek system in recent years. That's what our men are doing and it is not easy, failure happens, sometimes chapters hands are tied by the university and others take opportunity and run with it at the right time. I will be frank with you, this past year has not been good to us but we have taken every chance to succeed, every chance to prepare for the future and stack our fraternity resume over and over again. We have taken efforts to provide resources for our chapters that have not been provided before. I have seen numerous changes with Tau Epsilon Phi in the past year. I can simply say I'm excited to see what we can do next.

I will always be transparent with you brothers and I won't hide the negatives of what this pandemic has done to chapter growth and community outreach. Recruitment went better than expected in the fall but nowhere near what our normal trajectories were going. This sparked our interest in Phired Up's digital recruitment classroom we have provided to every single undergraduate. This service is used by our competitors and the resources within it can redefine rush for many of our chapters. Some groups, however, have been tied down due to university sanctions on Greek life and have been forced to limited operations this past fall. Others had more leniency or some even adapted fully to a virtual space. Some chapters initiated a community discord, a virtual space for people to join anytime all day to video chat, text, play games, and learn about Tau Epsilon Phi. Some used this resource and took steps for virtual fundraisers that engaged brothers outside of their computer. One event I would like to highlight is the Yemen at home 5K relief fundraiser that our Rowan chapter facilitated and cooperated with multiple chapters including RPI and New-Brunswick. Other groups who didn't participate also adapted to street cleaning, organizing soup kitchens inventory safely, and some even created a GoFundMe and virtually reached out through social media marketing. Our chapters are not just standing there doing nothing, they aren't rolling over and giving up.

News from your Staff

When I heard that recruitment had been down but not as declined as expected, I say that with surprise. I had predicted that it was going to be much worse but our groups did a great job of adapting and going directly to as many new members to connect with one-on-one. Some chapters even started using paid advertising and even made social media pages to adapt to this new digital recruitment age. Our chapters have been working hard for spring, I have seen it myself through my individual meetings with the Chancellors. Recently Matt Tursi your Undergraduate Vice-Consul and I hosted a virtual recruitment seminar with the majority of our chapters and colonies. This was a discussion space to share ideas with one another, find deficiencies on rush and provided clarity on the Phired Up digital classroom. I truly felt everyone walk away with new ideas and a better understanding of how to conduct rush through committee structures, personal engagement and marketing.

Since the last edition of the plume we have been refining some of our projects and completing others. One that I am very proud of is our merchandise store. As an undergraduate, I always wanted a central hub to purchase Tau Epsilon Phi gear but it was all so spread out and I could never find a banner or flag. Now I can proudly say that tepshop.com is fully functional and provides those materials! There is still much to do and add but we can now proudly endorse the site to all brothers of Tau Epsilon Phi. We currently have some projects for some intellectual property, more resources being made for our undergraduates to be shipped out as care packages to support recruitment efforts every semester. We also have made strides in our history preservation and alumni outreach to have more advisor involvement and digital records.

I cannot wait to share more with you brothers, every project I pick up becomes a passion project. I will always put 200% into every task I get and I am looking for more! Hopefully I can update you all on a couple of more interesting things in the works soon. In the mean time please reach out to your chapters and say you are there to help. The brothers will be happy to hear from you. We will be sure to make it past these times and come out as strong as ever. Our brotherhood is resilient and the drive for fraternal excellence will not stop.

-Nicholas Dondiego, Associate Director of Chapter Services



News from your Staff

Associate Director of Expansion

To all of our Brothers who have endured the past months of uncertainty:

This semester has been a great challenge to us all. For some of you, it included spending time during your quarantine to strategize as to how you were going to operate on campus. With increased restrictions and a close eye examining Greek life across the nation, it was imperative that you all took the precautions necessary to keep your Brothers and campus safe. We are extremely proud of the measures you took to make public health a priority despite the hardships it puts on your education. Unfortunately there are still murky waters to navigate. The pandemic is not over and despite vaccine rollouts, states across the US are breaking hospitalization and death records. We must continue to be diligent in fighting the virus so that we may build a bridge for those who come after us. Some schools are following similar protocols to the Fall semester, others have changed their plans to accommodate a higher level of opening or more restrictions to curb spikes in the community. Due to this we will be unable to visit your chapters and meet your new members for another full semester. This has been the most difficult aspect of the pandemic for me. Not being able to see Brothers and friends has been difficult especially with so many being miles away. Keep up the strong efforts in the spring and continue to stay safe and have fun even if it's through a Discord room.

In October, I held the pleasure of attending my first Grand Chapter. I had such an amazing time at the Brotherhood Meet & Greet and being able to work at Convention with you all. I take great appreciation of the subsequent Meet & Greets hosted by Ken "Gerk" Hurtado. Although I was unable to attend the holiday sessions, I would love to attend more unprompted happy hours with you over Zoom and plan on doing them again in the future. I thoroughly enjoyed the convention as well. Handling the technological support for our first virtual convention was daunting at first but through the cooperation and assistance from all of you there it went very smoothly! A new Grand Council was elected and I have enjoyed working with them thus far and hope that we can meet in person sometime next year.

News from your Staff

This semester The Tau Alpha Colony came back at The University of Florida. I would like to thank Rick Freedman, Ted Lieber, Michael Roth, Steven Feinman, and all the other Tau Alpha alumni who played a major role in this group coming back and having a strong Fall rush. Due to their diligent work and recruiting methods. Tau Alpha immediately came back to campus as a formidable presence and the Undergraduates were taught the skills necessary to come back to campus seamlessly.

I believe the greatest asset in working with this pandemic is flexibility. As our schedules and plans are shifted without warning we may need to give time, space, or maybe a message of hope and support. We have made a great deal of progress and faced adversity throughout much of our history. Our resiliency was tested again and thanks to our dedicated alumni and undergraduates who stepped up to be the bridge builders that push this organization forward. Our new members are grateful for this. I look forward to seeing you all in the new year even if it must be through a computer screen. Hopefully the next winter edition we will be talking about great reunions. Stay safe, happy, and healthy! My line is always open for a Brother, feel free to reach out if you want to connect!

-Jacob Corter, Associate Director of Expansion



Tau Epsilon Phi University of Florida

Expansion

TEP INITIATION TIMES TWO

So, what did you do this past weekend? I drove up to Gainesville on Friday and supervised the initiation of 60 candidates into the brotherhood of our Tau Alpha Chapter.

First, you should understand that, except for the seven active senior brothers from the Fall of 2017, there were no other brothers at the chapter in Gainesville that had ever attended, let alone organized, an initiation ceremony. Also, because of COVID, and because we had so many candidates, we needed to perform two separate initiations on two separate days.



The weekend of initiation activities actually began on Thursday evening, (no, not with a Hell night). That night I hosted the junior and sophomore pledges for a 45 minute Zoom session where we discussed the important symbols of our fraternity. Following that session, I immediately spent another 45 minutes with the freshman pledges, also by Zoom. Some of the things we discussed included:

1. The Creed of Tau Epsilon
2. The Bridge Builder
3. The Founding Date of TEP National
4. The Founding Date of Tau Alpha Chapter
5. The Seven founding members of Tau Alpha Chapter, TA 1 - TA 7

On Saturday, October 31, 2020, I supervised the initiation ceremony for the juniors and sophomores that had formally pledged this fall. On Sunday, we repeated the process as we initiated the 2020 freshman pledges. I proudly wore my TEP brother's pin made of emeralds and pearls, with those jewels linked on a chain to the initials T.A.



For those of you that have not attended an initiation ceremony since you left college I can share with you that it was an amazing experience. I flashed back several times to my own initiation in November of 1976. I recall my Chancellor, David Edelman running the event that night. Our Pledge Master Neil Wiesenfeld leading us into the TEP house basement as we were about to move from pledging to brotherhood, and, at the end of the evening, our P Man, Jose Abreu, who had scared the living sh-t out of us for eight weeks, suddenly was all clean shaven, wearing a suit, and screaming out GIVE ME a T, Give me an E, Give me a P, what's that Spell - TEP. It was a night I will never, ever, forget .

Tau Epsilon Phi University of Florida Expansion



This past weekend we once again performed the initiation rituals that have been repeated for 95 years at our chapter. We spoke about The Lamp, The Book, The Stars, and the Helmet & Swords; the Plumes, the Heart & Links, and finally, the Emeralds & Pearls.

Each of us joined this fraternity for a host of different reasons. We all came from many different cities and backgrounds. But over the course of our pledge experience, which we began as a bunch of individuals who mostly did not know each other, we bonded into a cohesive tight knit group of brothers. The things that we all share are identifiable:

TO LIVE in the light of FRIENDSHIP

TO WALK in the path of CHIVALRY

TO SERVE for the love of SERVICE

TO PRACTICE each day, Friendship - Chivalry - Service, thus keeping true to these - the three ideals - of the founders of our fraternity - this is the Creed of Tau Epsilon Phi.

Above are some photos from the initiation weekend, first the junior and sophomore pledges, then the freshman pledges, and finally the photos of three alumni brothers who were privileged to witness their son's initiated from the 2020 pledge class. They included Brothers Darren Blum, TA 2217, Fall 1987 (with his son Jake); Greg Rothman, TA 2219, Fall 1987 (with his son Eli); and Rick Plotkin, TA 2301, Fall 1988 (with his son Ethan).

TYEF

-Rick Freedman, TA 1517

Alumni Throwback



Tau Epsilon Theta, Epsilon Theta Chapter, Queens College 1964 at Chapter Apartment in Lefrac City

Front row, left to right: John Rosenthal; Marty Moskowitz; John Levin; Gary Lawson.

Second row: Jeff Leyton, Joel Wolf, Phil Dolen, Ron Fuchs.

Third row: Marty Eichen, Bob Fihrrer, Herb Wolf, Mike Lester, Ted Kantor, Ken Rosenfeld, Gordie Thorp.

Fourth row: Dave Kellerman, Ira Gordon, Rich Burack, Don Bandel, Mike Resnick, Alan Greene, Jeff Peters.

Fifth row: Steve Roberts, Dave Moss, Bob Glazer, Neil Deutsch.

Back row: Mike Natbony, Ken Lemberger, Steve Lewit.

Undergraduate Reports

No Submission: Hofstra ($\Sigma\Lambda\Sigma$), Univ. Albany ($\Lambda\Sigma$), Univ. RI ($T\Omega$), UNC(ZT)

Johnson & Wales University Omega Alpha Chapter

The Omega Alpha Chapter of Tau Epsilon Phi at Johnson and Wales University, faced similar struggles that affected all Greek life organizations this past fall, due to the pandemic that has been occurring at this time. While the situation did make it extremely difficult to operate as normal we, as a chapter made the best of what we could. During the course of the semester we hosted several virtual brotherhood events over Zoom to keep in contact as well as be able to joke around and have a good time with our brothers. We even hosted a large zoom meeting with all our active brothers as well as alumni that wanted to join, this was set up by our previous Historian and our alumni advisor DJ Jones. We also did a good job of moving to a virtual recruitment process that drew a large number of interest from potential new members.

Despite the difficulty with gatherings we were still able to participate in several community service events. Including the Red Solo cleanup that we traditionally do each term around the neighborhood as well as volunteering to help with the Colt State Park 5K held by True North Running company .

Overall it was a difficult semester with everything going on but we attempted to make the best of it and keep the fraternal bond we all have. "I'm really proud of how safe and responsible everyone stayed during last semester and am looking forward to the large amount of potential new members we have for this term as well as the good things that are coming for this fraternity in the future" - Henry Hurlbrink, (Warden)





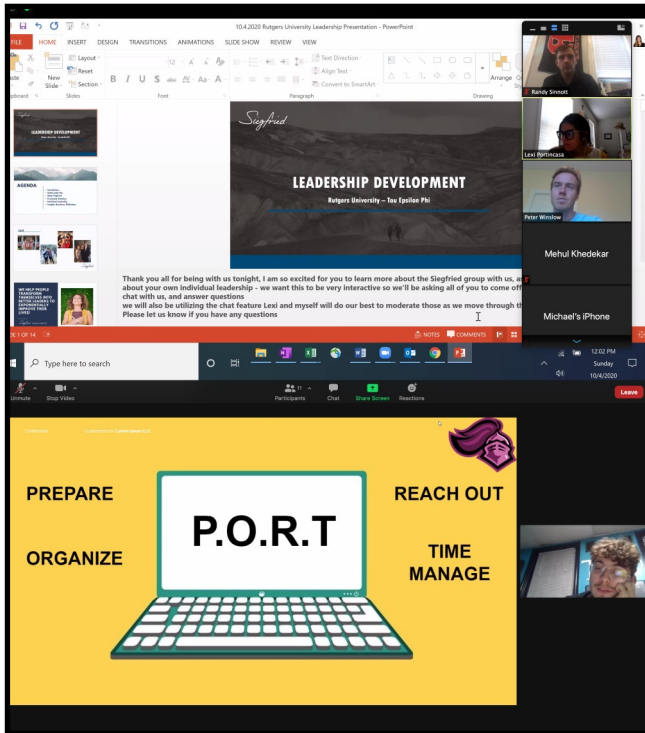
University of Pennsylvania Rho Chapter

The Rho chapter of Tau Epsilon Phi at the University of Pennsylvania had to unfortunately remain virtual for fall 2020 into spring 2021. Our brothers were able to stay in contact with Zoom events from a virtual magic show before the start of the semester to just catching up and gaming. We are in the process of raising funds for Covenant House, an agency that provides food, shelter, and other services to homeless youth.

Though we did not accept any new members in the fall, we are hopeful to recruit a great new class to join the chapter this spring, with fun and exciting upcoming virtual events.

Rutgers University at Camden

Sigma Epsilon Chapter



The Brothers of the Sigma Epsilon chapter hope you all have had a safe and wonderful year. We are proud to announce, even with our few run ins with COVID, that all of our members are well and healthy. This past fall semester was one like no other. Being completely online due to COVID caused everyone to adjust very quickly to a “new” style of learning. For some this change was quite difficult, while for others it wasn’t as big of a deal. We all stayed strong and fought through this struggle together. The COVID pandemic not only impacted how we were learning though. This pandemic impacted all of our planned activities and events. It

forced us to move what we could online, but some events fell through due to this challenge. This was some very sad news to many of the brothers. As an organization we decided we didn’t want this semester to go to waste due to the pandemic and we decided that we would take this time to focus on connecting with all of our members and grow our relationships with each other.

Focusing on growing our connections/relationships with each other was never more important than it is now. Due to the fact we can barely see any of our members in person staying connected was of up-most importance. Especially since we still managed to pull off something pretty spectacular. The brothers of Sigma Epsilon chapter are proud to announce our newest class TEP 107. TEP 107 is made up of three outstanding young men, Nick, Allan, and Cory. We wanted us to start growing our connections with our new members but this was difficult since we couldn’t see everyone in person. Many of our members started playing video games together multiple times a week. We would get a full Xbox/ PlayStation/PC lobby and all play together for a few hours on some nights. This is one way that we all stayed in contact and communicated with each other. This was probably one of our favorite ways because we always had fun playing some videos games together. Video games weren’t the only way we stayed connected, many of the brothers regularly facetimes with each other. Some have even taken little trips to see some of the brothers that were comfortable. As I mentioned earlier, COVID forced us to move what events we could online. We were able to have our Fundraiser for Yemen’s humanitarian crisis. We successfully raised \$115 through our online Instagram campaign. The brothers of the Sigma Epsilon chapter are very proud of this accomplishment.

COVID caused us to have many setbacks but we were still able to come together and find an effective way to raise money for this crisis. We were also able to hold a panel from the Siegfried group where they taught us about personal leadership development.



University of Indiana Gamma Tau Chapter

We've had a strong couple of semesters here at Indiana University despite the challenges that Covid-19 brought. Since fall of 2019 we've inducted 41 pledges into our brotherhood! Most recently, we initiated our Zeta class of 12 young men into the Gamma Tau chapter and we are very excited to see what impact they will have on our future.

Over the last semester, we were involved with both the Indiana University Dance Marathon and the Hoosier Hills Food Bank. In total, our chapter raised close to \$6,000 between the two charities and some of our brothers raised enough money to virtually attend the dance marathon.

Socially, our brotherhood remained as strong as ever, even though we were limited to gathering online or socially distanced. We started the semester with a golf tournament at the Pfau golf course near campus which was won by Matthew Mossler and Koji Leonardo. We were also able to celebrate arguably the most successful football season in Indiana's history from our couches. Finally, we were able to go paintballing safely this year which helped our brotherhood become even closer than it already was.

Overall, our brothers feel great about where the chapter is headed and the progress we've made every semester. Even during the pandemic, we were able to take steps to grow our chapter that will continue to help shape our future. We are very excited for the coming semesters and hope to continue our growth post pandemic!



SUNY - University at Buffalo

Phi Upsilon Chapter

This past fall semester was a huge test for our chapter but in the end proved to be successful. Despite facing COVID-19 outbreaks in Buffalo, along with the university community, we were able to stay safe and healthy and operate as best we could. Although challenging at times, we were still able to recruit, pledge and initiate a new pledge class this past fall. Being able to do this and grow our chapter during difficult times was a huge success for us and we are looking forward to another safe and successful semester this spring.

In regards to service, we also held a canned food drive, donating 183 pounds of cans and non perishables to FeedMoreWNY along with a joint clothing/food drive with AGD at the end of our semester.



Rutgers University at New Brunswick Alpha Phi Chapter

As we can imagine for most fraternal organizations, the Alpha Phi chapter has certainly undergone some hardships during this pandemic, both within our organization as well as within the personal lives of our members. However, despite this, the Alpha Phi chapter is still going strong. Our online Fall rush brought us two new members, that being Wasif Rashid and Jashar Banks, who are both gallant men of the highest quality. Wasif is currently our chapter's scribe, and Jashar our recruitment chair, both are doing excellent work in their respective roles. Going forward, the Alpha Phi chapter is currently fine tuning the online rush process so that we may be more successful this Spring, as well as planning more in person brotherhood and philanthropy events as the restrictions of this pandemic are curved with the aid of vaccination. We would also like to highlight our paired effort with other chapters, on October 3rd, the Alpha Phi chapter organized a virtual 5K in order to give aid to Yemen.



Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute Epsilon Iota Chapter

The Epsilon Iota chapter boasts an astounding fall semester, bringing in a quarter of all signed bids on our campus. We held strong to our plan regarding the safety of our household amidst the coronavirus, and didn't have a single case the whole semester. We raised money online for helping out starving people in Yemen, which was very successful. We also held an online raffle to raise money for the ASPCA in order to help out animals in need. The brothers also changed up our rushing to be as safe as possible by mostly rushing online, and despite this being the first time it's been tried, it was an enormous success. Epsilon Iota is looking forward to a safe and legendary new year, and we wish national and the other chapters a most excellent semester.

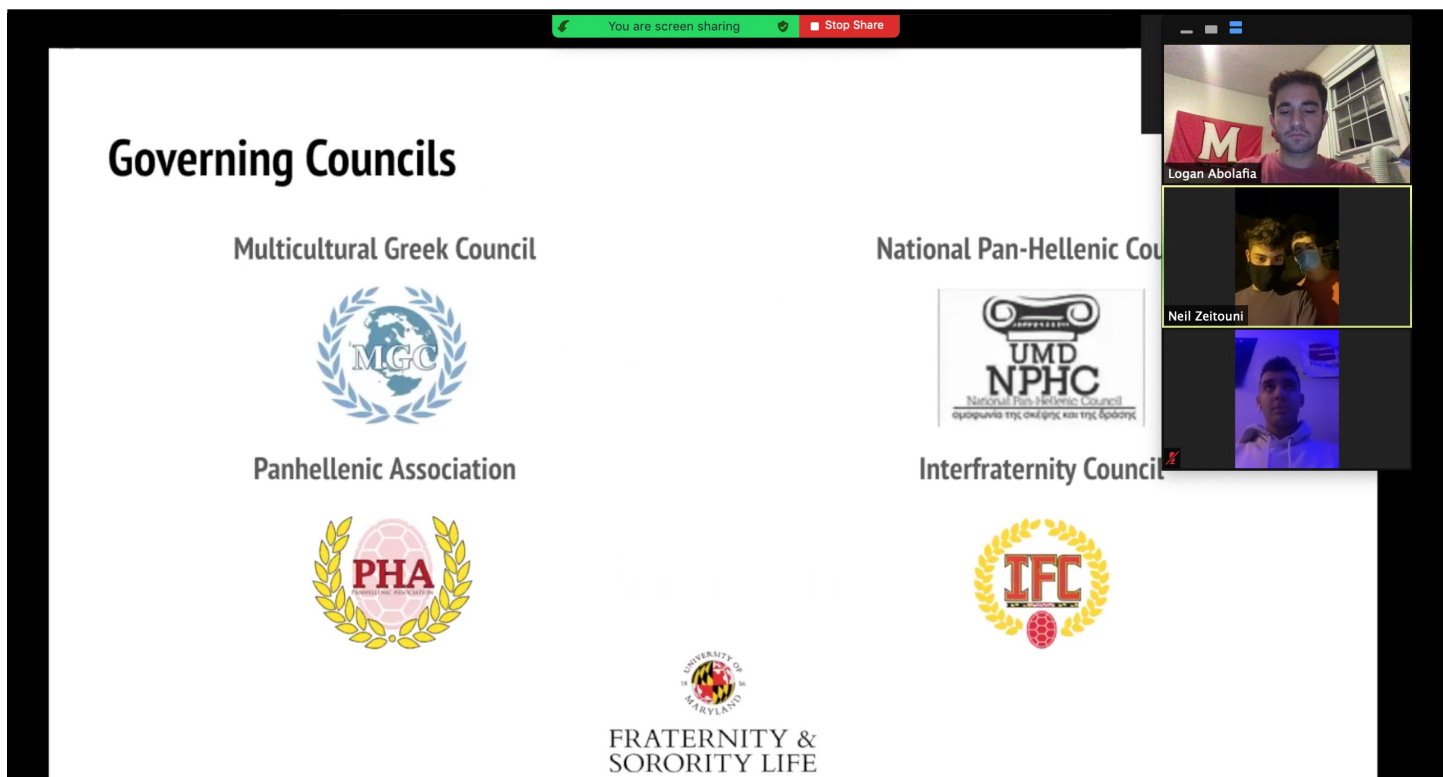


Clarkson University Lambda Phi Epsilon Chapter

During the Fall 2020 semester, we experienced the new normal of school life challenging us to uphold the organization without breaching safety regulations. We had to set massive restrictions to uphold the health and well being of one of our members as he was immunocompromised.

Throughout the semester we had to constantly adapt our rules due to the changing regulations from the University and local level. We were blessed to have gained one new member, as most other Fraternities at the university acquired no one. Unfortunately we are losing 11 of our members to graduation, therefore our main focus for the upcoming semester is new memberships and following the safety regulations set by the state and school.

Update on Service Hours and Philanthropy Funds: Due to the pandemic and strict University regulations, we were unable to find service opportunities and organize philanthropy events. A total of 41 service hours were achieved and the brothers were able to donate a total of \$1239.63 to Relay for Life. Despite the low numbers we were able to achieve a level five out of six on our University's annual grading system. We are continuously adapting to the new normal and looking for different approved service opportunities to do within our community.



University of Maryland Tau Beta Chapter

As we embark on the spring semester, the Tau Beta chapter will look to grow its brotherhood through both careful and strategic planning as recruitment approaches in light of the COVID-19 pandemic; during the fall semester we successfully admitted three new brothers and will look to grow that number significantly this spring. Despite the social limitations, we carried out numerous brotherhood events virtually which we are extremely proud of; these included, but were not limited to: Sunday football watch parties, online recruitment where potential new members had the opportunity to socialize with brothers, and virtual video game tournaments. Also, we successfully completed our annual No Shave TEPvember philanthropy event, where brothers forgo shaving in an effort to raise money for cancer patients. Specifically, the brothers of the Tau Beta chapter raised over \$3,300 with the help of family, friends and alumni.

Overall, this upcoming semester we will look to expand our brotherhood and continue our involvement with the College Park community by attending events like TerpThon and partnering with local businesses. In addition, we look forward to finding and implementing new ways to further strengthen our brotherhood using methods that will ensure everyone's safety and involvement.

Above you can find a picture from the Beta Epsilon's new member education process where they were learning about the governing councils of UMD Greek Life.



Rowan University Alpha Tau Chapter

The 2020 year, despite the effects of COVID-19, has been an excellent year for the Alpha Tau chapter at Rowan University. We have managed to raise over 8,000 dollars in charity this fall alone, and continue to strive to improve. Some of our efforts include members now on IFC, and the Executive Board of the Herman James Honor Society. Brothers at Rowan have achieved over 500 hours of service this fall, and look to continue trending upwards.

Adaptation was necessary for this last semester, which meant a huge focus on being ok. Although it sounds simple, this meant making mental health support and brotherhood as an absolute priority. We undoubtedly miss the social aspects of TEP before coronavirus, however there is enjoyment in the peace and quiet that quarantine brings. As of Spring 2020's Greek academic report, TEP at rowan had the highest GPA of any social fraternity on campus, standing at over a 3.5 for the semester. As a brotherhood of support and Opportunity, this year has surpassed the motto we strive to live by.



University of Georgia Nu Chapter

In 2020, the Nu chapter continued to thrive in many areas: socially, academically, and fraternally, and managed to safely do so with constant regard and attention to the COVID-19 pandemic. Pre-pandemic, we embarked on our annual winter formal in New Orleans, and started off the year with many socials, band parties, and brotherhood events that make up the full Greek experience.

This being said, academics remain our highest priority here at Nu. This year we continued to maintain one of the top GPAs in all of Greek life and consistently rank in the top 5! Let it be known that we are fully committed to continued academic excellence this next year. In our brotherhood, we have multiple Dean's List recipients, as well as multiple Presidential Scholars. This is a testament to both our emphasis as a fraternity on academics, as well as the individual drive of each brother.

In the fall, we initiated eighteen fine young men into our brotherhood, confident that they will uphold the values that have kept our Nu chapter in existence for over 100 years. It was a great year for us and 2021 will be even better!

This past year has challenged us all in ways we could not have imagined. As a chapter our bonds only strengthened. After being sent home for the remainder of the spring semester we were still able to remain in touch. From online poker nights, to socially distant golfing, and even a zoom social - our brothers stayed engaged with each other and managed to uphold and strengthen our relationships with each other despite the challenging circumstances.

In the fall, after much anticipation and counting down the days until we could return to campus, we were finally able to go about our brotherhood life, in a safe and socially distant manner albeit. We hosted socially distanced brotherhood events, including zoom trivia night, the annual Gary Lips Invitational Tournament for brothers who received negative test results for the coronavirus, and a pledge class kick-ball tournament at the local park! As a fraternity at the University of Georgia I plead that we were one of the safest fraternities when it came to attention to the pandemic, if not the safest on campus. We were able to go about what makes Greek life great despite the circumstances, and I believe that this has made our chapter stronger and more unified as a brotherhood.



University of Florida

Tau Alpha Colony

During the fall 2020 semester, our colony, Tau Alpha, had to overcome many major obstacles. Beginning this fall, our colony had a starting brotherhood of seven. On top of having a smaller colony than usual, our colony had to recruit new members during a national pandemic. Taking both into consideration, the odds were stacked against us. However, we are TEPs, we don't run away from a challenge, we run right over it. With great dedication and belief in our brotherhood, our colony prevailed and recruited a 60 person fall new member class. Due to the pandemic, we were unable to have social events on or off campus. Instead of focusing on the negative, our colony decided to take this opportunity to strengthen our brotherhood. I believe that it's this strong bond we have with each other that has helped us overcome the near impossible. During the fall, we had many brotherhood events with our colony. Some noticeable ones to me were watching the finals on a projector at the house while properly social distancing, having weekly chapter meetings on zoom, and hosting a Madden tournament on zoom. This year has been one of the most challenging years to be part of Greek life; however, with a strong enough brotherhood you can overcome anything. With the new vaccine being distributed all throughout America, our colony is excited for the new opportunities that will come in the future.



Pennsylvania State University Epsilon Phi Colony

This past fall semester our colony at Penn State was adapting to the new normal of the world today. We welcomed two amazing young men into the fraternity through a meaningful, but virtual New Member Process. We look forward to having a great spring recruitment. Additionally, we have raised over \$6,500 towards cancer research through THON. We were proud last February to have our first two dancers as an organization participate in the annual 46 hour dance marathon. We look forward to continuing our involvement in the event and continuing to raise money for its cause. Overall, we cannot wait to be back for the spring and have a great 2021.



Florida State Epsilon Deuteron Colony

The Epsilon Deuteron colony at Florida State University has had a remarkable year. Through lots of effort and planning, we successfully held our third rush since reactivation and gained and thus initiated our third pledge class as well. This year has challenged us to adapt in many ways due to the COVID-19 pandemic that has changed many of our daily lives, but through it all, we have prevailed. All of the brothers here at Florida State have all been working together with the goal of leaving the fraternity in a better shape than when we were first initiated. Our colony continues to come together to organize events as they have over the past year and into the future. Some of these events included working with various charities like the Alzheimer's Project, Dance Marathon, and a local suicide prevention walk. We enter this new year with high hopes for the future and are diligently working with the University to gain IFC recognition. We plan on building and growing our colony this coming year and with this excellent group of men working towards those goals within our colony, there is no doubt that we will succeed.

Undergraduate Resources

Our continued partnership with Phired Up and their digital recruitment classroom is incredibly resourceful for our groups. Every chapter (and their members) of Tau Epsilon Phi currently has access to this resource to help not only the rush chair(s) but it also gives every member the knowledge to think of completely new ways to conduct rush in person and virtually for this already challenging year.

Phired Up has partnered with over 300 campuses and 75 national fraternal headquarters in the past 18 years and has numerous other tools and digital media to help our undergraduates succeed.

This digital classroom is an exciting first step to change how each chapter can do recruitment and we cannot wait to see how our undergrads use this resource. This classroom is filled with short videos, activities and documents to help the planning, generation of names and execution of spring recruitment.

For those interested, you can even become a Phired Up Certified Recruiter™. Contact your staff about this exciting opportunity to improve recruitment!

Phired Up Digital Classrooms (FAQs)

Introducing digital classrooms to help you learn how to grow your chapter! Now you can become a **Certified Phired Up Recruiter™** from the comfort of your computer at your own pace.

Every member who is dedicated to helping your chapter attract, select, and secure the *right* members should become **Certified Phired Up Recruiter**. Your whole recruitment team should complete this course. Maybe your whole chapter. What if every member became a certified recruiter before this next semester?

Learn the art and science of organizational growth from the experts who literally wrote the books on it! Whether you're a current Panhellenic, Interfraternity Council, Culturally-Based Fraternal Organization member or an advisor wanting to learn ways you can support your chapter, we have a digital classroom to help you learn the fundamentals of growth we teach to chapters and councils across the country. After the successful completion of each course, you'll be qualified to become a **Certified Phired Up Recruiter™**!

Q. What if I already bought personal access to a classroom and now my HQ is providing it for free?

A. E-mail info@phiredup.com and ask for a full refund. It is that easy.

Q. Can I put on my resume that I'm a Phired Up Certified Recruiter™?

A. Yes! (If you complete the digital classroom). This content will help you way beyond fraternity/sorority membership. These skills will be impressive to future employers.

Q. How much does it cost?

A. Normally, it costs \$45 for each person. But your HQ has purchased access which means you get it for \$0.00 (if you use the link on the first page).

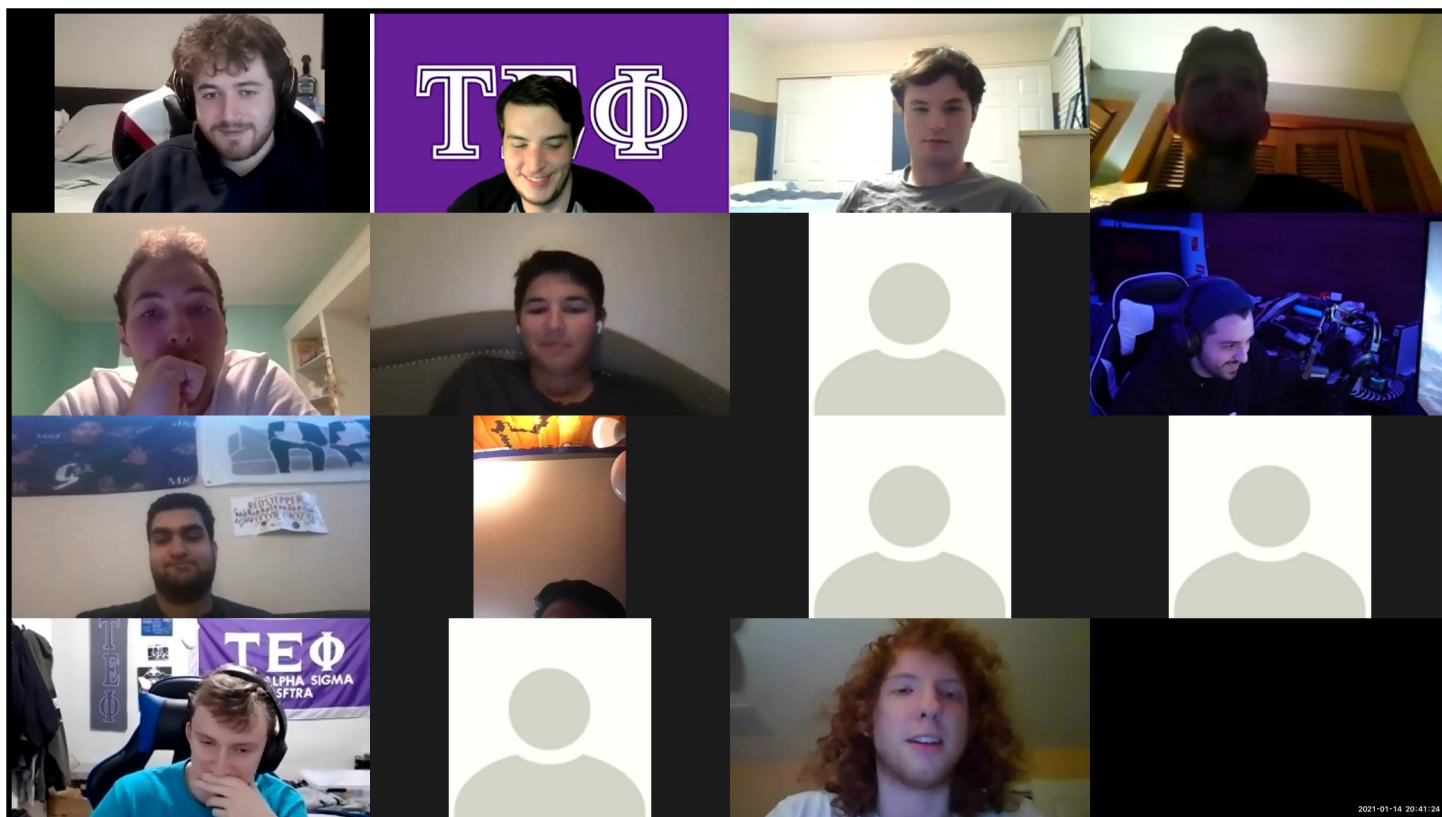
Q. Is this a boring online class?

A. Nope. None of the videos in the undergraduate-focused classrooms are longer than 5 minutes. It's all quick-hit, relevant, and real-life information that you can use to help your chapter grow **RIGHT NOW**. This isn't boring lectures or long PowerPoint presentations. This is quick, fun, a little playful, and super helpful.

Q. Will this help my chapter grow (even during COVID-19)?

A. Yes! (If you put into practice the lessons taught in the digital classroom). This is a perfect way to prepare to grow your chapter even during this strange time.

Undergraduate Resources

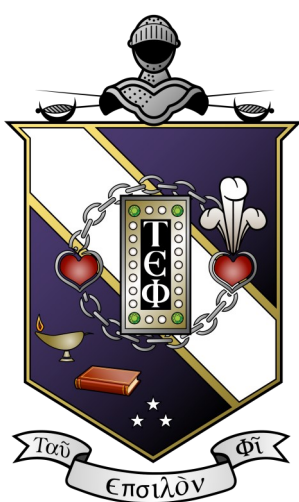


Recently our staff member Nicholas Dondiego and Vice-Consul of Undergraduate Affairs Matthew Tursi held a recruitment seminar with our chapters and colonies. The goal of the meeting was for our groups to not only get information from national and explain Phired Up but to foster an open forum to discuss recruitment amongst themselves. Each group continued to share ideas as the virtual meeting went on. Another main point that the majority of our larger sized groups mentioned was the formation of a rush committee. Committees can sometimes lose their way or not be used at all after their creation. This is a huge mistake that some of our groups wanted to highlight. When reviewing the digital recruitment classroom from Phired Up many of our chapters did not know about the pool of information taken from multiple other fraternity recruitment strategies during COVID and online recruitment. After a short presentation our groups now knew exactly what the Phired Up Digital Classroom was providing them and we expect our groups to start and continue to use this resource in the spring.

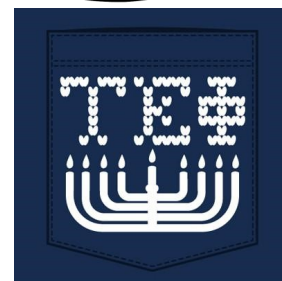
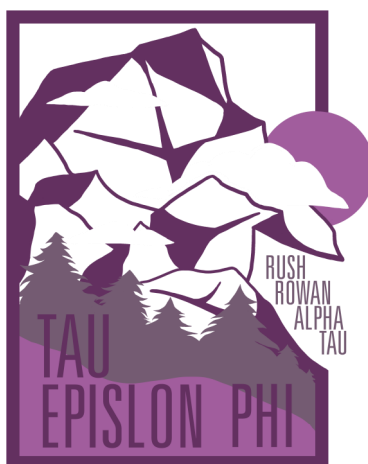
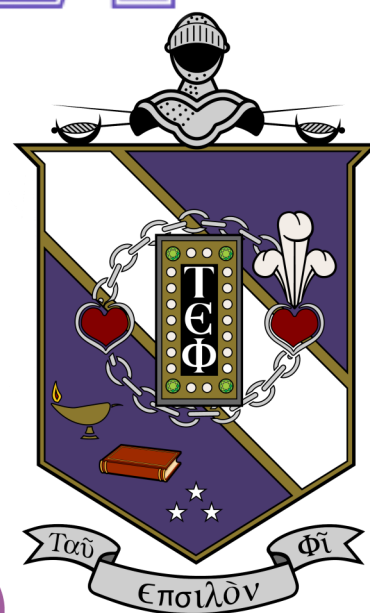
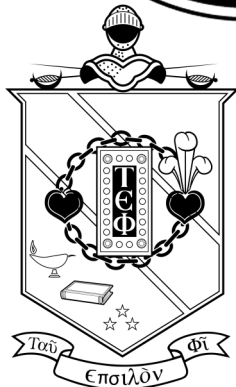
We plan to continue to have these meetings collaborated between our staff and Grand Council members to show unity and aid to our groups. Multiple other topics will be covered as the semester continues, to help our chapters with any and all operational issues.

Tau Epsilon Phi Art

TAU EPSILON PHI



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TAU EPSILON PHI

Tau Epsilon Phi

CHAPTER ETERNAL BROTHERS

- ♦ Brother Larry King , Honorary Brother 1989

Per Past Consul Gerry Denmark - "Larry became a TEP (HON) when we had our convention in Baltimore in 1989. I was Consul at the time. Larry and Brother (Vice-Consul) Stu Blumberg, soon to be Consul were good friends for many decades. Larry was invited to address the Convention but had a conflict that night. But he made a video which was played to a large audience in attendance. In addition, Stu, myself, Leo Gordon and Jonathan Seidel were invited to appear on his nationwide radio show in Crystal City where Larry interviewed us for about 20 minutes. He made us feel welcome and relaxed and couldn't have been nicer. We made him an honorary brother live on the air."

- ♦ Brother Lawrence Berler, Epsilon Gamma, New York University at Heights
- ♦ Brother Stan Samuelson, Epsilon Iota, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
- ♦ Brother Hyman Gluck, Tau Zeta, University of Maine
- ♦ Brother Joshua Shubin, Tau Alpha, University of Florida
- ♦ Brother Jerry Horn, Tau Mu, University of Connecticut
- ♦ Brother Scott Broomfield, Omega Upsilon Chi, Husson College
- ♦ Brother Alvin Halpern, Nu, University of Georgia
- ♦ Brother Jerome Marvin, Nu, University of Georgia
- ♦ Brother Donald Faber, Tau Upsilon, University of California - Los Angeles
- ♦ Brother Donald H. Spivack, Zeta Lambda Phi, Temple University

Rest in Peace Brothers

Tau Epsilon Phi

CHAPTER ETERNAL

Announcing our Chapter Eternal Program

When a brother passes away we all mourn collectively. We post the information on our Facebook group and publish the name in the Chapter Eternal section of The Plume.

Unfortunately, in almost every case, the families of the deceased Brother do not know that we honor them this way.

The Grand Council has agreed to implement the following:

- 1) Write a letter to the family expressing our collective condolences and letting them know that we will include the name of the Brother in the next edition of The Plume (and follow up with a link if possible), and
- 2) We will make a \$22 contribution to a charity in their name. \$22 is not a lot, but very symbolic to the Brothers of Tau Epsilon Phi.

If the obituary or other information lists a specific charity, then we will contribute there. If not, but the Brother was a veteran, then we will make the contribution to our national philanthropy @OurMilitaryKids. Otherwise, we will make a donation in their memory to The TEP Foundation.

The best way for this program to work is for you to tell us when you know of the passing of a brother.

Please help us make this program a success!

From the Editor

Hello Brothers,

I never thought I would be working on the Plume as a staff member and especially not during my time as an undergraduate. It is honestly a privilege and honor to be the editor for the Plume and add another chapter of recorded history to our ranks.

My intent with the Plume is to put it on par with our constituents now and excel all other standards. The next Plume will be made with much more time and care now that I have learned numerous lessons about this newsletter and this task in general. I am excited to start the next edition and hope to improve the quality of it further. I will need your aid to in this goal to provide further fraternal excellence. If you know of an alumnus with a recent great accomplishment, have any Tau Epsilon Phi history in your possession or have any critical feedback it will help me reach that goal.

I hope to have the Plume recorded on a new system and improve on the structure of the article to make it more enticing to read. I want the Plume to be a refreshing read with multiple resources and interesting bits of Tau Epsilon Phi history and current events. Thank you for trusting me with this and I hope to make you all proud and engaged with the Plume.

- Nicholas Antonio Dondiego

AT 41

Rowan Alumnus



THE GRAND COUNCIL OF TAU EPSILON PHI

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Donald J. Anspauch, Jr., ΕΦ, *Quaestor*
Mark Gardner, ΦΧ *Tribune*
Kirill Reznik, ΒΔ *Immediate Past-Consul*

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Patrick Megaro, ΣΑΣ - *Trustee*
Douglas Thornton, ΤΖ - *Trustee*
Al Versacci, EM - *Trustee*

CONSUL REGISTER

Alfred C. Versacci, EM - 1981-1983
Albert "Bud" Schiff, Ω - 1983-1985
Gerald A. Denmark, ΦΛ - 1985-1989
Stuart L. Blumerg, ΤΑ - 1989-1991
Leo M. Gordon, Ω - 1991-1993
David C. Steinberg, ΕΗ - 1993-1995
Scott Lakernick, ΣΕ - 2008
Lane B. Koplon, Ν - 2011-2016
Timothy A. Smith, EI - 2007-08, 2016-18
Kirill Reznik, ΒΔ - 2018-2020
Mark Abramson, EK - 2020-Present

PLUME EDITOR

Nicholas Dondiego, AT

CHAPTER ROLL

N University of Georgia
Ξ Massachusetts Institute of Technology
P University of Pennsylvania
TB University of Maryland
EI Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
ΣΕ Rutgers University, Camden
ΛΦΕ Clarkson University
ΣΑΣ Hofstra University
ΑΦ Rutgers University, New Brunswick
ΩΑ Johnson and Wales University
AT Rowan University
ΓΤ Indiana University, Bloomington
ΦΥ University of Buffalo, SUNY
ΤΩ University of Rhode Island – COLONY
ΕΦ Pennsylvania State University – COLONY
ΖΤ Uni. of North Carolina, Wilmington – COLONY
ΑΣ University at Albany, SUNY – COLONY
Εβ' Florida State University – COLONY
ΤΑ University of Florida – COLONY

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N University of Georgia
Ξ Massachusetts Institute of Technology
ΕΘ Queens College
EI Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
ΕΦ Penn State Alumni Association
ΣΕ Rutgers University at Camden
ΤΑΚ Lehigh University
ΛΦΕ Clarkson University
ΦΧ City College of New York

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Timothy Smith, EI

Associate Director of Chapter Services

Nicholas Dondiego, AT

Associate Director of Expansion

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PLUME ADVERTISING PROGRAM

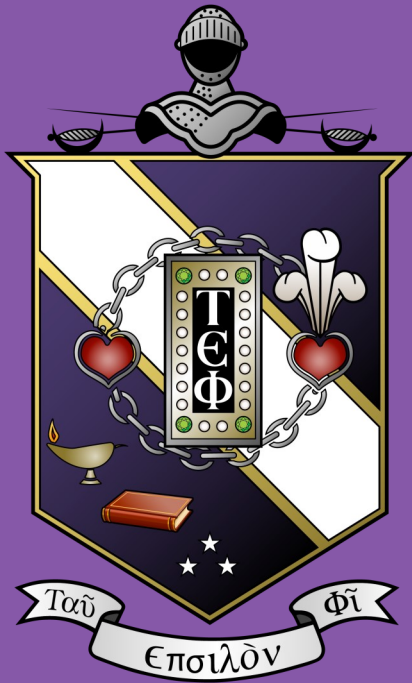
Your AD Here

- ◆ Support to the undergraduates in the form of programming and scholarships
- ◆ Improved communication across our extensive network of TEP Undergrads and Alumni
- ◆ Increased exposure for your business, reaching over 8,000 brothers and affiliates

The plume team is excited to promote the advertisement program for all brothers of Tau Epsilon Phi. In the past editions, entrepreneurs, recruiters, and business owners could find their product promoted to successful TEP men and affiliates from prestigious university's and institutions. The full brotherhood benefitted from this program and it is time for its return. For a competitive fee, your ad will be featured in two editions of the Plume, complete with everything you need for success. WE also welcome advertised shout-outs for those wanting to show their love for a pledge class, chapter, and other TEP brothers.

To participate, please contact plume@tep.org

- ◆ Business Card—\$40.00
- ◆ Quarter-Page—\$60.00
- ◆ Half-Page—\$80.00
- ◆ Full-Page—\$100.00



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