

#### Volume 80 Issue 1

Winter 2022



### The Consul's Corner



A lot of you should have noticed that the Fraternity is now publicizing as alumni enter "Chapter Eternal". These are members who have recently passed away. As a way to memorialize them something is posted on social media. We then send a letter to their family and make a donation to a charity of their choice. (If no charity is named we send a donation to the TEP Foundation.) The idea to memorialize our alumni came from former Consul Kirill Reznik who manages the process.

The "Chapter Eternal" recognition hit home for me recently. One of my chapter brothers, Howard Israel, passed away a few weeks ago. His passing made me thankful that our Fraternity has a way to remember him. Howard was a pledge when I was a senior at Tulane. Everyone liked Howard. He was the type of person who got along with everybody. Howard became a doctor, raised a family and gave back to his community. One of his pledge brothers, Peter Benn, told me that Howard was fighting a battle with brain cancer, so I called him. We hadn't spoken in forty years, but once we connected it was as if we saw each other a few days before. He was positive, even though the odds were against him and it was nice to talk with him. I am telling this story because it illustrates how the friendships we make as TEPs are eternal.

### **The Consul's Corner**

On a happier note TEP is growing. We are re-colonizing at SUNY Binghamton and the University of Delaware. Last fall we were approached by groups interested in colonizing at SUNY Oswego and Marietta College in Ohio. While these are not yet definite opportunities, we are hopeful they will work out. We are working on other schools as well.

Our first in-person Grand Council meeting since COVID took place in Atlanta at the beginning of October. After the meeting members of the Grand Council went to visit the NU chapter at the University of Georgia. We took the executive board to lunch. They are a great group of men and, along with their alumni, run a very successful chapter.

Until next time, TEPs are tops and always will be. And please stay safe



-Mark Abramson, Consul

# The **PLUME**

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#### **ON THE COVER:**

This years leadership retreat was held in the Pocono Mountains of PA. As a team building activity the attendees and staff participated in paintball at Skirmish Paintball, PA.

#### FOR ONLINE NEWS:

www.tep.org www.facebook.com/TepFraternity www.linkedin.com/company/tepfraternity www.twitter.com/tepfraternity www.instagram.com/tepfraternity



### Alumni

When exiting your formative  $TE\Phi$  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

- 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. Often times the first step of starting a new page in your journey after college 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, and we can let our chapters know to recruit those quality men.

#### OUR GOAL:

We want to see alumni engagement increase and we are working towards finding new ways to meet our goal. The first steps for us is to connect you with your chapter and find ways to help the ones to come.

### Shoptep.com



# Brand new items added every semester



GreekGear

\$44.99

GreekLife Store \$26.98

🖤 like

Banner 3x5 Feet

GreekLife.Store

\$28.98

### **Expansion Spring 2022**



The date is finally upon us, where Tau Epsilon Phi returns to The University of Delaware in 2022. Tau Epsilon Phi looks to resume their 20 year campus history and welcome students back to campus after a remote 2020.

Instagram – UDTauEpsilonPhi Facebook – TEP at UDelaware

https://app.chapterbuilder.com/

We are excited to induct the first candidate class this spring after formal recruitment ends. Please fill out our lead generation form on our website to recommend a brother!



Instagram – <u>Tep\_binghamton</u>

https://tep.org/binghamton/

Tau Epsilon Phi returns to Binghamton University in the Spring of 2022.

TE $\Phi$  has been invited back to campus by the University and the Interfraternity Council (IFC) and aspires to recruit well rounded men who intend to learn and grow as leaders, establish personal and professional connections, and make positive contributions to the Greek and greater Binghamton community.

Fill out the lead generation sheet on our website to recommend a brother for the Spring 2022 Re-founding Fathers class!

### **Expansion Fall 2022**



Ohio State Expansion Slated for Fall 2022

We are pleased to announce that Tau Epsilon Phi is returning to The Ohio State University in the fall of 2022! The Tau Delta chapter of  $TE\Phi$  holds a rich history and is home to one of our most extensive alumni networks. Uncoincidentally, Ohio State University is one of the most prestigious collegiate institutions in the nation. We are very excited for this upcoming expansion and the opportunity to add yet another chapter in the mid-west to extend our reach and extend our undergraduate brotherhood network in the area. With The University of Illinois and Purdue to be established in the following years, Ohio State will be a tremendous partner to have as college students in the mid-west are becoming more and more familiar with  $TE\Phi$ .

Look for more information on the expansion to Ohio State in the future, we are taking the spring semester to work with campus staff to prepare for our scheduled term in the fall. Be sure to follow and support the group as they grow and start their own chapter journey!

### Social Media Highlights



**O** @tepindiana Indiana Univ.

Congratulations to our newly elected executive board! Looking forward to an exciting year ahead under their leadership! #tep2022



**O**@tepjwu Johnson & Wales Univ.

Happy Thanksgiving from the TEP family all to you! We hope you have a blessed day with your family and friends #tauboys #tepsgiving



@rowantep Rowan Univ.

Shout-out to all our brothers and the sisters of @sdtrowan for making PB&J's for the Samaritan Center of Glassboro

Not pictured: University of Pennsylvania | @tepupenn University of Florida | @tepuf MIT | N/A University of Georgia | N/A



#### **O**@tephofstrau Hofstra University

We're so proud of our brother Cayde for graduating with his Bachelors degree in public relations yesterday. We always knew you could do it! #tep #tauepsilonphi #tauboys



### @tep\_umd Univ. of Maryland

The TB boys want to wish everyone a happy and healthy holiday! #tepcares



@clarksontep Clarkson Univ.

Without further ado, we welcome the fall 21 of TEP. Many would say where they lack the brains; they make up for it with their looks and charm. Congratulations boys.





Shout-out to everyone who attended our first program on time management and study tips!





Happy Holidays from the brothers of Tau Epsilon Phi



@tepbuffalo Univ. of Buffalo

It was a great Senior Night for UB Football

Pictured are some of our brothers that attended last nights gam! Go Bills!



## Ö@tep\_uri

Univ. of Rhode Island COLONY OF THE YEAR! The brothers want to thank everyone who contributed to this amazing award. Most of all, thank you to @tepfraternity on recognizing our hard work and dedication this year. The best is yet to come!





Our annual formal ramble was cancelled last year, but for 2021 we came back with a bang! Thank you to all of our alumni who made it out to celebrate, thank you to all the dates, we hope you had an amazing night, and shout-out to our undergrads for looking their best! Absolute kings!





#### Rensselaer (RPI)

Our rush kick off with IFC went great today, hope to see everyone at T.E.Fry on Wednesday at 7 PM!

#tep #tauepsilonphi #rpi #
ifc #fraternity #rensselaer
polytechnicinstitute

# Baltimore 2022 GRAND CHAPTER

SAVE THE DATE: OCTOBER 6th-9th 2022 BALTIMORE MARRIOT INNER HARBOR AT CAMDEN YARDS



Baltimore Marriot Inner Harbor at Camden Yards

Our next grand chapter will be in person!!! This time we will be at the Inner Harbor in Baltimore. We are excited to be back in the Maryland area, central to many of our chapters and alumni. After a long time of not seeing our brothers and having our first ever virtual Grand Chapter, this is much needed to reconnect with our brothers and keep true to our traditions.



The Harbor East & National Katyn Memorial

We will once again convene to build the bridge for the future of our fraternity and to honor our three ideas of Friendship, Chivalry, & Service.

Details on making your reservations in our next issue!

# Poconos 2021 Recap Leadership Retreat



Our retreat to the Pocono's this past October was a return to form as restrictions open up and opportunities now present themselves to provide in person services to our undergraduates and leadership. We were fortunate to have as many leaders as we did and to show them the brotherhood that comes from every chapter no matter how far we are from one another.

The programming for this trip was carefully selected by our staff to help each of our chapters with respective issues they asked for aid in.

# Poconos 2021 Recap

The retreat opened with a night of introductions and networking. Brothers got to the hotel and connected with one another discussing the next couple of days at the Split Rock hotel. The next morning our undergraduates went through programming from Dan Rona our partner at Rise Partnerships on a multitude of topics all focusing on leadership and improving chapter operations.



Our Tribune Mark Gardner, conducted multiple presentations on diversity, equity and inclusion. He started this conversation on the topic of intention vs impact and ran through scenarios with our men so they better understood what this topic tackles. The leaders were responsive and engaging with Mark during his discussions. At the end of Mark's presentation he asked the men what topics they would like the



committee for diversity, equity and inclusion to bring up at future retreats and virtual seminars.

During our formal banquet with our chapter leadership we presented this years awards. The award winners can be found on page 17 . Pictured next to this is Alex Wagenberg and Matthew Friedman from our Tau Alpha chapter being presented ALBERT "BUD" SCHIFF OUTSTANDING RUSH AWARD from our Consul Mark Abramson. Great job to all of our award recipients on their success through this past year during one of the hardest times in our fraternity's history.

# Poconos 2021 Recap

On the Saturday of the retreat we took our leaders out for a day of brotherhood. Near the hotel was Skirmish paintball, one of the best paintball arenas in America. This was a callback to our previous retreat where many of our alumni participated in a paintball game with previous executive director Mike Brown.



On our return to the hotel the men peered out from the bus and even saw the final kiss of a local wedding ceremony on the lake. Our leaders clapped respectfully and then enjoyed a good laugh about the timing of it all. That night chapter leaders explored the area together and discussed their chapters future. The leaders kept their programming packets and notes to bring the knowledge they learned back to their chapters.



The trip concluded with a good & welfare with our undergraduate brothers, staff, and attending grand council members. Final goodbyes shared among new friendships and many memories were made that will never be forgotten. The chapter leaders return home eager to share their experience with their chapter.

# **URI Chartered!**



We are excited to announce the chartering of our Tau Omega chapter at the University of Rhode Island! This sixty plus man chapter has showcased to their peers and our staff an immense effort and strong presence on their campus. Tau Epsilon Phi at URI has returned in full force, ready to serve for the love of service.

Pictured to the right of this text is our previous Chancellor at Tau Omega Adam Weiner and incoming chancellor Todd O'Connel with their schools advisor Dr. Steve Simo won this years Honorable Leo M. Gordon Exceptional Greek Professional award for outstanding service to the Greek community. Thank you for your continued service to our men at your university!



### 2021 Awards

# **ΤΕΦ AWARD RECIPIENTS**

#### LEO M. GORDAN EXCEPTIONAL GREEK PROFESSIONAL AWARD

Dr. Steve Simo, Assistant Dean of Students for Student Affairs at

#### the University of Rhode island

#### **GERALD A. DENMARK COLONY OF THE YEAR**

Tau Omega Colony, University of Rhode Island

#### ALBERT "BUD" SCHIFF OUTSTANDING RUSH AWARD

Fall 2020 – Tau Alpha Chapter, University of Florida

Spring 2021 – Tau Beta Chapter, University of Maryland

#### DAVID C. STEINBERG MOST SCHOLASTICALLY

#### **IMPROVED CHAPTER AWARD**

Epsilon Phi Colony, Pennsylvania State University

#### LOUIS S. LEBENTHAL MOST IMPROVED CHAPTER AWARD

Epsilon Iota Chapter, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

#### LOUIS FEIN COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

Tau Beta Chapter, University of Maryland – Most Community Service Hours

Tau Beta Chapter, University of Maryland – Most Funds Raised

#### CHARLES M. DRIESEN OUTSTANDING CHAPTER AWARD

Gamma Tau Chapter, Indiana University

#### JOHN KLEINBERGER SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

Rho Chapter, University of Pennsylvania

### Alumni Throwback



Here is a picture of all the alumni that attended the Sigma Lambda chapter reunion in the fall of 2021. We had about 45 brothers spanning almost 40 years in attendance. We had two (2) of the founders that were Sigma Lambda Pi and chose TE $\Phi$  as their national fraternity in 1969. Hopefully, this successful reunion could help change their mind about restarting the chapter at Bryant University.

- Andy Lyman





# October 10, 1910

Last October I was contacted by our past Consuls to participate in a Zoom call with them to talk about the founding date of our fraternity. For background, when I was an undergraduate at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI) at was then the Epsilon Iota colony, I was taught our national founding date was October 19, 1910. This was the first date that all ten (10) of our founding fathers were present for the first time and mirrors a story found in the "The History of Tau Epsilon Phi." It was also taught to me that the "concept" of our founding was on October 10, 1910.

For many years I personally thought we had "two" founding dates with the "official" date being the 19<sup>th</sup>. During my meeting with the Consuls, they shared with me personal stories of conversations they had with our late Executive Secretary Emeritus Sidney Suntag along with stories of attending events in their youth with founding father I. "Doc" Schwartz. They acknowledged the confusion around the subject but wanted to assure me that following these historical conversations, the "official" founding date of the Fraternity should be October 10, 1910. I thanked them for the information and mentioned that I would share what I learned with the Grand Council at an upcoming meeting. Following the meeting of the Grand Council, it was unanimously decided that the official founding date of the fraternity shall hereafter be October 10, 1910.

I hope this ends the debate once and for all and I want to thank the past Consuls for their continued guidance and support.

> - Timothy A. Smith, MBA Executive Director

# Fraternities Matter

#### Fraternities are an accelerator for success in college and beyond.

Students spend 90% of their time outside the classroom. Fraternities capitalize on those hours by preparing men for success in college and in their futures far beyond what their peers experience. And a study of thousands of alumni of diverse backgrounds shows this holds true regardless of an individual's background or socioeconomic status entering college.

Because of higher expectations, as well as the support and network fraternities provide, members experience greater gains in learning and graduate at higher rates than their peers. 83% of members say their confidence in their leadership skills increased because of their membership. Fraternity and sorority members also report higher levels of interaction with people different from themselves, lending to members being more prepared than their peers to join a diverse workforce and community. So, it is no surprise that fraternity alumni are twice as likely to believe their college experience prepared them well for life after college.



Fraternity members can tap built-in alumni networks, finding jobs more quickly than their peers. Research shows almost half of members had a brother helped them find an internship or job and provided them with career advice. Fraternity alumni report being more fulfilled in their careers and lives in every aspect of wellbeing in their lives, from career to community and financial to physical, because of the relationships and resources they can leverage. Membership is clearly a worthwhile investment.



## Fraternity members experience stronger mental health.

While college men are experiencing loneliness and depression at increasing rates, fraternities empower students to create a strong support system. This family – this home – that fraternities provide offers help and guidance when a member needs it most.

Research shows that this connection can create a strong sense of belonging, leading members to have more positive mental health and less anxiety and depression than other students. Brothers feel comfortable having tough conversations and learning from each other, and when they seek help, research shows members are twice as likely to reach out to a fraternity brother than anyone else.



#### Fraternities create *lifelong connection* to the campus, community and friends.

Fraternity men love their collegiate experience – as students and as alumni. In fact, more than 8 out of 10 fraternity members say they would re-join their organizations.

Research shows, fraternity membership connects men to the university in a way that nonmembers simply don't experience. They're more satisfied as students and as alumni are more likely to recommend and give back to their alma maters.

Members are more engaged inside and outside of the classroom

Fratemities & Values of Single Sex Experience, UT-PERC, 2021 The Greek Experience Revisited, Pike, 2020 spectives on Fratemity and Serviry Life Positive Youth Development, Everli, 2021 than their peers—they report feeling more supported by their faculty and nearly half serve in leadership roles across campus. They're also more connected to their local communities, with research showing they spend significantly more time volunteering than non-affiliated students.



of fraternity men feel a strong connection to campus and are more satisfied with their experience.

Fraternities and Stronities. Experiences and Outcomes in College, Work and Life, Gallup, 2021 Mental Health and Wellness for Fraternity and Soronity Members. Biddix, Assalone and Graze, 2020 Greek values and attitudes. A comparison with Independents: Pains and Winnels, 2020

# TE $\Phi$ Composites



Most of our existing digital composites on the website are from our archives. The staff want to inform our brothers that we are at the end of our supply and will now be relying on alumni and undergraduate submissions to preserve the records of our fraternal history. Please send composites you would like to share with us to nick@tep.org along with any additional Tau Epsilon Phi history you are comfortable sharing. The following link will lead you to the digital composites available on our site.

https://tep.org/composites/

### March Madness Fundraiser Returns



This upcoming March, we plan to host our second annual March Madness fundraiser to support Our Military Kids, our national philanthropy. This February an email will be sent out asking for those who wish to participate as well as instructions on how to do so. Above, you will see the three prizes you can win for participating in this competition while raising funds for a great cause. Last year, we raised over \$3,100 and had over 50 participants. There is a minimum ten dollar donation for participating and all of the money goes towards our national philanthropy.

# **ΤΕΦ** Branding

#### TAU EPSILON PHI

We have officially launched our new branding page on our website!

The purpose of this resource is to clearly communicate the Tau Epsilon Phi brand and provide distinct guidelines for the usage of our visual identity. It is our intent to encourage the creation of further brand awareness and increase the value of our brand equity. These guidelines show the proper use of our logos and brand imagery for chapters, alumni, and partners. It also includes official versions that can be downloaded.



Tau Epsilon Phi Fraternity, Inc. (Tau Epsilon Phi) is the exclusive owner of all Tau Epsilon Phi trademarks, Greek symbols Tau-Epsilon-Phi (TEΦ,) Crest, Creed, Badges, and the informal use of "TEP". These trademarks may only be used by authorized parties which already includes our undergraduate and alumni members in good standing, alumni associations recognized by the National Fraternity, the Grand Council, and staff. Products may not be produced or sold by any person or organization without a licensing or written agreement from the National Fraternity.

Tau Epsilon Phi trademarks are not to be used with:

- Any depiction of alcohol, drugs, or brands associated with alcohol or drugs
- Any depiction aimed at harming or demeaning ethnicities, religion, or culture
- Any depiction relating to harming or demeaning a person's gender or sexual identity
- Any intent of incorrect brand usage

# Recruitment

Our continued partnership, in the 2021-2022 academic year, with the Phired Up digital recruitment classroom is incredibly resourceful for our chapters/colonies. All chapters (and their members) of Tau Epsilon Phi currently have access to this resource to help not only the recruitment chair(s) but it also provides 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 fraternity headquarters in the past 18 years and has numerous other tools and digital media to help our undergraduates succeed.

#### **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<sup>™</sup>!

#### 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 fratemity/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.

This digital classroom is an exciting first step to change how each chapter does recruitment. The classroom provides short videos, activities and documents to aid in planning, lead generation, and execution of recruitment.

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

### **The Bridge Builder**



Stuart L. Blumberg is a fraternity man who has given countless hours of effort and support to his fraternity and truly cares about his fellow brothers. Stu has been a TEP for over 67 years, culminating with his service as Consul of the fraternity from 1989-1991. Prior to this he had served as Director of Chapter Services in the early 1960s, being the fraternities first field consultant. Having been initiated in 1954, Stu was fortunate to know our founders personally and learn from the men that he says are "The Mount Rushmore" of TEPS. When Stu was 21 years old, the Grand Council was composed entirely of our founders. They ran a very tight ship, formal but effective to the endeavors of the fraternity. Stu's experiences and history with TEP has shaped our organization to be what it is today. Our brother to this day still meets with our previous Consuls and involved alumni to check in on the fraternity and his brothers.

### **The Bridge Builder**

Stu spoke about the founders from his experience. He showed me their passion for the brotherhood, through his words and expressions. Stu explained "I had fun, socialized and went out. They told me what it meant. They showed me how important it was. When I sat down with these gentlemen and they explained to me what it meant to them and what it will mean to you. It was their child; it was four years of fun but to them it was heart and soul. It was the connections, the love, the brotherhood. It was a different feeling to see TEP from their perspective, I knew what it meant to be a TEP. Fraternity life was fun, but not until after being at national did I understand what TEP meant. I didn't have the History of Tau Epsilon Phi book; I had the founders and they taught me the true meaning of the fraternity, which I am forever grateful for." I asked Stu, given his hands-on experience of from the early years of our beloved fraternity, if he had a chance to visit many of the single letter chapters that are dormant today. Stu visited Cornell but did not get a chance to visit Alpha. He spoke of how Delta was the main chapter you had to visit, made it a point to visit them during his undergraduate years. When he was there, he felt that it wasn't any different than that of his own chapter, Tau Alpha. "It felt the same, we were all members of the same fraternity. The Delta chapter was another strong chapter of ours living out our ideals. The founders were the most impactful when meeting another TEP". Stu spoke highly of his brothers and those he has enjoyed to work with. When he was Consul, he made a point to be more relaxed, have more time to enjoy his brothers' company but run a productive fraternity.



### **The Bridge Builder**



I asked Stu, if you had three (3) things you wanted TEP to do for its future, what would they be and why? He said, "I think number one, we have to be concerned about our future as to keeping TEP an active fraternity nationally recognized, continue to grow and not be threatened again. You want to make sure there is a continued history, that keeps us prominent in the fraternity world. The second would be the ability to instill in the chapters the meaning of what is our fraternity, you can read the portals and do all those wonderful things but unless they really understand what they joined and why they joined, not just to socialize, it has to have a meaning, it has to have a purpose. That's why we gave you a bid, why we rushed you and learned what it means to be a fraternity brother, especially a TEP. Third would be to inspire leadership, the fraternity will fail. Personal growth, know why you're a member, and make sure to have strong leadership in your chapter."

Stu's personal growth past his time with TEP lead to a successful career in the management of several hotels in the Miami beach area. He even served as president of the Miami Beach chamber of commerce. In the book, THE HISTORY OF TAU EPSILON PHI, there is a particular chapter to highlight called "One Suit Stu" following his time working as a field consultant for our fraternity. The fraternity has been fortunate to have Stu's involvement from staff to Grand Council and now as an alumnus involved for the continued future of the fraternity.

### **Staff Updates**

### **Executive Director**

I hope this message finds all of you doing well. While we had hoped that the challenges of the ongoing COVID pandemic would be behind us by now, unfortunately that isn't the case. The omicron variant has driven infection numbers up across the country. However, with the help of vaccines and booster shots the impact of the virus seems to be wanning. We are hopeful by the end of 2022 that the pandemic will transition back to the endemic stage and life will return to some sense of normalcy. We are happy to report, that prior to this new outbreak, life for TEP was mostly back to routine. My team and I were able to begin traveling again to visit chapters and colonies as well as visiting with our institutional and headquarter partners. We were able to attend much needed conferences and conventions and even conducted our first in person event for our undergraduate leadership since the pandemic started. This past October we brought chapter and colony members to the Pocono mountains for a long weekend of education, training and fun. Unfortunately, the best laid plans got thrown out the window as I tested positive for coronavirus on the drive down to the resort. I had stopped on the New York State (NYS) thruway for lunch and realized that I couldn't taste any of my meal. I stopped at a pharmacy on the way and picked up a self-testing kit and sure enough, received a positive result. With this in mind, I had no choice but to bring my team up-to-speed to take over hosting the event and from what I hear, they did a phenomenal job. I'd like to thank them again for all they continue to do and for really stepping up-to the plate with no notice.

As I write this, we are all preparing for the spring semester. Many of our campuses are starting off the term using remote learning as they test the campus for infections with the hope of minimizing the number of positive cases. I think this is both a prudent and necessary step to keep everyone healthy. As such, rush and recruitment may be delayed, but our members are eager to meet new potential candidates and our research shows that many are looking for a fraternal experience. We are also excited about expansion opportunities with several planned for this semester. We anticipate inducting our interest group at the University of Delaware and are making plans to be back on campus at the University of Binghamton. There are also a few campuses where potential interested students have reached out to us and we continue to engage them and their campuses on starting or restarting a chapter. We very excited about this and look forward to continuing these discussions.

### **Staff Updates**

We have also been working with our colonies on becoming chapters and are hopeful several of them will cross the finish line this year. I would be remiss if I didn't recognize the efforts of our Tau Omega chapter at the University of Rhode Island who was granted their charter this past fall. I had the great honor and privilege to present them their charter on campus in December. While I was there I was also able to recognize and honor Dr. Steve Simo, Assistant Dean of Students for Student Affairs. Dr. Simo has been nothing but a great partner with us for many years now, and his passion and support of the Greek community is unwavering. I presented him with the Honorable Leo M. Gordon Exceptional Greek Professional award which was established by the Grand Council in 2020 to honor former Consul Leo Gordon. It is given out annually to a campus partner who provides exceptional not only to our chapter but the greater Greek community as a whole.

Plans are coming together for our Grand Chapter and Convention this coming fall in Baltimore, Maryland. We are planning the event at the Baltimore Marriott Inter harbor at Camden Yards for October 6 – 9, 2022. We suggest you save the dates and make plans to join us for our first in person Grand Chapter since 2018. We have secured a special rate of \$139 plus taxes for each night and details on how to make your reservations will be available in the next issue of the Plume.

Timothy A. Smith, MBA Executive Director



## **Associate Director of Chapter Services**

Our brotherhood is one of resilience, the brothers of our fraternity that lead the charge of our efforts stay strong. We started this past semester with the first in person recruitment since the start of the pandemic. Most of our chapters were in full swing, focusing on recruitment being back to what it was before virtual events took over. On a national level, we saw more of our lead generation being filled out than ever before. The mix of virtual advertising that continued to fill social media, paired with finally being back in person for events such as bowling, paintball, house tours and on campus service events set the fall up for a jump in recruitment. During my travels, I saw our brothers excited for this return to form, some of whom have never seen in person recruitment. Brothers came together and showed them how recruitment is for the longevity of the chapter but it is all about having fun with our potential new brothers.

My first in person visit since the beginning of 2020 was to our Lambda Phi Epsilon chapter in Potsdam, New York. This was one of the very few chapters I had not had a chance to see in person since joining national staff in the summer of 2019. I found the men on campus wearing new recruitment shirts, barbecuing and sliding down a giant waterslide on the biggest hill in the middle of campus. Friends, potential new members and other organizations members stopped by to reconnect. Our brothers were more than welcoming to me, they engaged in conversations of fraternal business right away. After the event, our brothers gave me a house tour of their famous mansion on the hill.

Our first in person national event since the virtual Grand Chapter in 2020 was at the Poconos at the Split Rock hotel. This leadership retreat was a joy to host, connecting with our chapter leadership face-to-face led to better conversations and a feeling of what the true essence of our pillar of friendship is. I was always with our brothers until it was time to hit the hay. Leaders were constantly engaged in discussion, asking for help from their constituents and making memories they will cherish forever. The programming at this conference was my favorite part, Dan Rona from Rise Partnerships, did a phenomenal job helping our chapter leaders plan out their semesters. Chapter management was a focus of this programming so our leaders can better plan events while handling inter brother conflict and rewarding those brothers who go beyond their expectations.

### **Staff Updates**

National has made every effort to conduct better practices, expand faster, and provide our undergraduates as well as our alumni with new resources and opportunities. Some of our completed goals, we expect, could lead us to further success over time. Expansion has been moving at a steady pace and recently our entire staff attended the Association of Fraternity Advisors (AFA) in Dallas, Texas. This event led us to some amazing networking opportunities with university officials and vendors. One focus of ours during the conference's meetings was how to better service the mental health of our members. During a time period where mental health is strained the most, we knew as a fraternity we needed help to aid our chapters. Now we have the beginning of our partnership with the JED foundation, giving us additional resources and direction for the mental health of our chapter's membership. Our additional meetings led us to education on membership retention, engagement of the general membership, and the current climate of the Greek world. This conference was a wealth of knowledge, every seminar lead to new partner-

ships and networks that were not open to us before. Needless to say, I cannot wait to go to the next AFA and to continue these discussions with those we connected with.

This next semester, I hope, will continue off of the refreshing tone that was in person chapter operations and national events. I encourage those reading this to get back involved with your chapter, support the men to excel with growth and chapter management. To our undergraduates, please continue to work with us as we will need your help with our projects and goals for our future, especially our new and many expansion opportunities coming these next few semesters.

> Nicholas Dondiego Associate Director of Chapter Services



# **Associate Director of Expansion**

Brothers,

It is surreal to believe that we have returned to many of our campuses and have begun the process to return to traditional campus life. This is the environment in which fraternities truly thrive. Many of our undergraduate Brothers in the northeast were returning to their chapter houses for the first time last fall and some of us know the feeling of missing their chapter house all too well.

With incoming students seeking extracurricular opportunities, more campuses are looking for fraternities to fill the need of their students, which means there are  $TE\Phi$ 's all over the country working to start new chapters. We have continued to build our expansion timeline and have added several new campuses in the upcoming years. Our work on expansion has been incredibly fulfilling as we have made agreements with The Ohio State University to return in the fall of 2022, The University of Illinois in the fall of 2025, and Purdue University in the fall of 2026. All of these opportunities are extremely exciting for our fraternity as these schools have high levels of admission traffic and large Greek systems that can encourage our growth in the mid-west for the future.

This semester held many firsts for me even though I have been on staff for almost two and a half years now. We chartered our first colony while I have been on staff at The University of Rhode Island. It was awesome to see a chartering ceremony for the first time since my chapter's ceremony at Rowan University in 2018. It was great to see a few familiar faces and meet the new leadership in person or the first time. A few additional colonies are up for charter this calendar year so look for the chapter roll to grow longer! Anther first for me was attending the Association for Fraternity/Sorority Advisors annual meeting in Dallas this past December. It was an immensely valuable experience getting to connect with many professionals on college campuses and National headquarters staff. It was also encouraging meeting up with our already established campus partners and hearing so many impressive updates on our chapters and the great work they're doing. I'm already looking forward to the next time I will get to see some of the long-distance peers I got to connect with at our next training at the Interfraternity Institute in June.

### **Staff Updates**

For the first time as a TE $\Phi$  Brother, I attended our Leadership Retreat. This was such a fun experience as I got the chance to meet several of the officers I work with on a day-to-day basis yet also the chapter officers that I don't typically get to collaborate with. We had a productive experience as we discussed topics of diversity, mental health, rush, member engagement, etc. Having meals with everyone at the same time made me reminisce a bit back to college life. We also practically had the entire Split Rock Resort as our TE $\Phi$  house. This was an amazing time and lived up to the hype I constantly heard about the leadership retreats and how it feels like a Brotherhood retreat with your own chapter.

In the fall, we had discussions with Binghamton University to return to campus and we have been approved to recruit an interest group this spring semester. The fall semester was also an opportunity for us to recruit at The University of Delaware and start advertising for our spring re-founding fathers class. Our interest group has been continuing to spread the word for us while we are away from campus and we are currently preparing

for our final rush period prior to the induction of the refounding fathers class. Our plan is to start the candidate education program in March and have them initiated as the  $\Phi\Psi$  colony of TE $\Phi$  by the end of the semester.

I hope all our undergraduates had a fantastic winter break; I know many of you are already almost a month deep into the spring semester and have begun recruitment and other initiatives on campus. For those still on holiday, enjoy the rest of your vacation but do not forget the prep work it takes to hit the ground running every semester. I look forward to seeing more of you as we work our way to our on campus visits. Stay healthy and happy as we move into the new year!  $TE\Phi$  Does!

> Jacob Corter Associate Director of Expansion



# **Undergraduate Reports**

No Submission: Hofstra University ( $\Sigma A \Sigma$ ), University of Pennsylvania (P), University of Florida (TA), MIT ( $\Xi$ )



### Johnson & Wales University Omega Alpha Chapter

Last semester, the Omega Alpha Chapter at Johnson and Wales University underwent yet another successful semester. We are fortunate to have taken one member who perfectly represents the ideals of Tau Epsilon Phi. He is extremely motivated and is always reaching out a helping hand to the chapter when needed. Also, as a chapter, we were able to return to campus for classes and participate in more events together. Neighborhood cleanups and assisting in nearby parks were our top priority, as a main focus of ours is to help our surrounding community. We were also able to raise a healthy amount of money for the Gloria Gemma Foundation through a donation box. We are looking forward to begin the semester with a new executive board and carry on the amazing traditions of Tau Epsilon Phi. The future is bright for our chapter here in Providence, Rhode Island, as the Omega Alpha's are looking to grow stronger than ever.



### Rutgers University at Camden Sigma Epsilon Chapter

The Sigma Epsilon Chapter of Tau Epsilon Phi would like to start off by hoping you and your family not only had a great Christmas but, also a safe one!

We have officially begun the spring semester of the new year and unfortunately Rutgers has deemed the first two (2) weeks fully virtual. A recent email did however, confirm the return of in person classes and events beginning the 31st of January. Looking back at the fall semester we are very proud of our brotherhood with countless successful events. Even with the continuous lingering COVID-19 protocols, we didn't let that stop us from doing what we do best, friendship-chivalry-service. No matter what was thrown at us as far as protocols, we adapted and overcame our obstacles to continue to be the best men we can be. We look forward to continuing this success this upcoming semester and aiming to make it even better! This winter we really put a lot of effort and thought into the spring rush and we believe it may be one of the best yet!

### Rutgers University at Camden Sigma Epsilon Chapter Continued...

As we know, COVID-19 changed and is still changing everything. When we first were made aware that the spring semester was going to be going virtual for the first two weeks it scared us a bit, not knowing what could come from that. With everything we started planning, we now had to prepare for the worst and prepare for a full virtual semester. But no matter what Rutgers may throw at us, The Brothers of Tau Epsilon Phi Sigma Epsilon are ready to make it work and find ways to keep the many traditions alive. We plan on hosting some of the same events as the fall with some new events added. As I said, we believe this will be the best rush we have ever seen!

As talked about before, rush week was a huge success this fall. After not being able to host any events in person last spring, we were able to have every event in person. We hosted a variety of events such as: bowling, wing night, driving range and putting practice. Each event turned out to be a great success. As always, we hope to see all the alumni for the annual alumni dinner this spring! This is by far one of the best traditions we have, having the opportunity to host the alumni and have them be able to talk to the potential new members and let them know why you rushed this amazing fraternity and why they should too!


# Rutgers University at Camden Sigma Epsilon Chapter Continued...

Our new Pledge class TEP 109 has already made countless contributions to our fraternity by taking over positions on E-board, moving in the house and shadowing positions held by older brothers such as Warden and Chancellor. They have proven that they will continue our traditions of Friendship-Chivalry-Service. We are looking to breed pledge class TEP 110 the same way and pass the torch down to them and watch them grow as TEP men and make us proud. As mentioned, safety was definitely our number one priority during this past semester to ensure everyone's safety and we always made sure to take every precaution necessary. We will be continuing to do this during the upcoming semester to make sure we keep safety number one at all times.

The fall semester was one for the records books and we look to top that with this upcoming spring semester! I would like to thank all my brothers for all the hard work they have been putting in to make this fraternity as successful as it can be! I cannot wait to see all the amazing accomplishments we are about to experience this semester and I can't wait to see everyone when in person events are back!

> Max Strout Sigma Epsilon - Scribe





# University of Indiana Gamma Tau Chapter

Our fall semester for the Gamma Tau chapter at Indiana University was one of the most exciting in our chapter's history. We moved into our new apartment complex which houses 36 brothers, and has become the main location where brothers can come together. This has been an amazing step for our chapter because the space provides us a true fraternal space to foster brother interaction.

On top of moving locations to the new complex, we inducted 26 new brothers. These additions have brought our active total to 97 members. This was the largest class in Gamma Tau history and we could not be more proud of all the brothers who helped us achieve this goal. With this coming semester, we will have over 100 members. Reaching this milestone demonstrates how much we have grown in recent years.

# University of Indiana Gamma Tau Chapter Continued...

Despite the challenges that COVID posed, we were able to hold many social events this past semester. We held social events nearly each weekend, which allowed our brothers to kick back and spend quality time with one another. We expanded the sororities we previously paired with and built many new connections on our campus.

In regards to philanthropic activity, brothers spent a day building a house with Bloomington's local Habitat for Humanity chapter. Additionally, we started planning and finding sponsors for our philanthropy concert on April 9th. So far, we have gotten four (4) Greek sponsors as well as two (2) local businesses for a total \$7,000. We plan to sell around 1,200 tickets for the concert and raise around \$50,000 for Save a Child's Heart and Beacon, two organizations that our brother's are passionate about serving.



# SUNY - University at Buffalo Phi Upsilon Chapter

This past Fall 2021 Semester is one that the Phi Upsilon Chapter and students at the University at Buffalo will never forget. At the start of the semester, we had tragically lost one our brothers, a former Chancellor, a mentor, an aspiring student, and our best friend, William Frederick Gottheld. This was a true gut check for all of the brothers at UB and we all had to be there for one another to get through it as a family. In addition, our chapter didn't have to fight this battle alone. Families, students, other TEP chapters around the United States, the National TEP Board, and the National TEP Foundation came together to make sure that we had the resources, food, and services we needed to grieve properly. Although this is a loss that we continue to deal with today, the brothers of TEP UB wanted to make the Fall 2021 semester one that Will would want us to have.

# SUNY - University at Buffalo Phi Upsilon Chapter Continued...

In the following weeks, we began a GoFundMe and other Social Media fundraising campaigns that included other Greek Organizations on campus to raise money for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, and the Disabled Veterans National Foundation (Will's Favorite Charity). The actions taken by students and brothers helped the grievance process by putting their efforts towards positive change. In all, the chapter was able to raise over \$100,000 for the Gottheld family and charities. The Gottheld Family is an inspiration to all of us and their selflessness helped create an annual Will G. Scholarship for UB TEP Brothers starting this Spring. The Will Gottheld Memorial Golf Tournament will be held in Buffalo this April to celebrate Will's life and to continue spreading awareness for Mental Illness.

The brothers were grateful and ecstatic to welcome eight (8) new brothers to our family in Buffalo this past Fall. Our eight (8) new initiates have already made great impacts on the fraternity, and some have been elected for E-Board positions in the Spring. Our chapter made sure that we experienced Buffalo for all of its opportunities. We went to numerous Buffalo Bulls, Bills, and Sabres games throughout the semester, tried new restaurants downtown, and did group intramurals in football and basketball; including three of our fraternity's intramural teams that reached the championship this semester. Also, after Covid-19 settled down, we were able to have our fraternity formal again in Toronto, ON which was a ton of fun and a great way to end our semester off together. The Phi Upsilon Chapter is looking forward to continuing its philanthropy, academic success, and brotherhood bonding in the spring of 2022. We can't wait to meet the new rushees and continue growing our family to the best we can be.



# Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute Epsilon Iota Chapter

Epsilon Iota has had a remarkable fall semester, meeting a number of goals set by the brotherhood at our first meeting of the year. We strived to advance our chapter in all of the three ideals. In the context of Friendship, we successfully initiated the largest pledge class at our chapter in the last three years, setting the foundation for more effective recruitment events and even bigger classes in future semesters. Congratulations to our new alumnus, Richard Northrup who just finished his masters degree. Three cheers for Rich. Chivalry is a vital cornerstone of our organization, and with this in mind, we hosted a mixer with a sorority on campus which was very successful. We hope to do more stuff like this in the future, aiming for at least two mixers in the spring semester. In addition to a mixer, we also held formal in the fall, renting a room at a local Italian restaurant. Service is also very important, and our philanthropy chair was hard at work all semester trying to make sure we could help the community while remaining covid safe. One of our best events in the fall was a charity livestream in which we raised money for the American Cancer Society. We also had a brother join the local Interfraternity Council Executive Board, a position which will be very beneficial for our chapter. Overall, Epsilon Iota had a productive semester and the brothers are excited to both improve and grow our chapter in the spring.



#### Clarkson University Lambda Phi Epsilon Chapter

During the fall 2021 semester, we continued to experience the new normal of campus life during the COVID-19 pandemic. Regulations were still enforced by the University, however they were not as strict as the past semester. We were able to hold more events on campus such as hosting a dodgeball event as well as a slip and slide BBQ. With this new presence on campus, we were able to pull in five (5) new members bringing us to a total of 20 great guys. After a great semester we look forward to making sure Spring 2022 is the same. We will be looking to find more ways to give back and help the community as well as giving more exposure to Greek Life and what great brotherhood TEP can offer.

As a chapter we had one of our most successful philanthropy semesters to date. This past fall we held a Toys-for-Tots week-long toy drive. Every member spent time helping out to collect toys and financial donations. At the end of the week we raised over \$1000 on top of receiving around \$400 in toys. Everything was donated locally to help families this past Christmas. The chapter continued with our Adopt-A-Highway program and even cleaned up some hiking trails on campus. On top of this, our current Chancellor had the most service hours completed out of the entire school this past semester at 20 hours.



# University of Maryland Tau Beta Chapter

This Semester, the Tau Beta Chapter at the University of Maryland was extremely successful. As our brotherhood continues to grow stronger, we had the opportunity to participate in many activities that were in person, compared to last semester which was more exclusively online. This fall, we welcomed three (3) new brothers into our chapter, and they have been a true pleasure to have as part of our fraternity. Most importantly, we have elected an entirely new executive board, and they have been working extremely hard to help and lead our fraternity to numerous successful months.

## University of Maryland Tau Beta Chapter Continued...

In terms of Philanthropy, we partook in three different events: "Walk to End Alzheimers", which is Held annually in more than 600 communities nationwide, the Alzheimer's Association Walk to End Alzheimer's® is the world's largest fundraiser for Alzheimer's care, support and research. This inspiring event calls on participants of all ages and abilities to join the fight against the disease. Next, "No-Shave TEPvember" With the goal to put our razors down and raise money towards cancer foundations. This year, we fundraised for the charity "Zaching Against Cancer," a local charity formed at the University of Maryland with the goal of improving the lives of cancer patients and caregivers through scholarships, research, and direct patient outreach. Zach Lederer was a former UMD student diagnosed with brain cancer in 2012. He, unfortunately, passed away in 2014 but his legacy lives on through his charity. Finally, "Dunk a Phi" (With  $AE\Phi$ ) which was also in support of "Zaching Against Cancer," we invited the college park community to take a shot at the dunk tank for a small donation to the charity. All in all, we were incredibly succesfull in our philanthropy events, and we look forward to participating even more next semester.

Thanks to our new Brotherhood Development Directors, we also had the privilege of attending events such as paintball, Monday night football dinner, and poker nights. Our most successful chapter expectations event was our participation in "The Ten Man Plan" which is a weekly meeting with the Department of Fraternity and Sorority Life in order to learn and communicate critical ideas about preventing sexual assult on campus. From this, we were able to integrate all of this information into our chapter meetings for all brothers to hear. Finally, this upcoming semester, we will be organizing our spring rush week and hoping to bring in a great new class of gentlemen. Some events we have planned are football barbeque, house tour, and 3v3 basketball.



## Rowan University Alpha Tau Chapter

The past semester proved to be just as difficult as anyone could have predicted being a Fraternity coming back from the pandemic. Everybody had been stuck in their homes for so long it's almost like everyone except for our brothers had forgotten how to interact with each other. This possessed an interesting dilemma with recruitment and doing anything with the school. Everyone was scared to interact. Through hard work and perseverance and help from everybody at Alpha Tau, we became immaculate in the eyes of the school. From doing the small things like participating in school events as well as being the first to show up and last to leave, to then raising thousands of dollars through philanthropy and fundraising with our annual 5K, PB&J's for charity, etc. The icing on top of the cake was being able to help out an alumnus from our chapter, with raising over \$800 to purchase underprivileged kids presents for Christmas to spread holiday cheer. We also partnered up with sororities on campus to wrap and label the gifts for the kids. I'm not only happy but proud of my chapter for not only hearing a call for help from one of our own brothers, but for upholding the sacred words of our creed. We served for the love of service and got the opportunity of a lifetime by helping our brothers, we were given the opportunity to exemplify what it means to be a TEP. In doing this we taught the new members and reminded older members that brotherhood is eternal, and our love for each other will never die. This upcoming semester we look forward to pushing towards our goal of growing our fraternity as well as playing intramurals and doing more philanthropic work.



## University of Georgia Nu Chapter

2021 was an eventful year for all of us. Despite remaining regulations surrounding COVID-19, Nu chapter still managed to have a successful year in all regards of fraternity life. We strived for success in social life, academics, and philanthropy on and off campus. Expanding our social calendar, we had an exciting year. Starting with our beach themed spring party "Shipwreck", to our formal here in Athens, we were lucky to be able to still put on our major events. With the tireless efforts of our social chairs Jed Chizner, Drew Breslow, and Alec Rosenthal, we had a full calendar of great events and parties.

Academics are always the top priority at Nu. With our new member class placing second in average GPA among the other new member classes, TEP continues to sit with the best of UGA's Interfraternal Council for academics. Our efforts to improve our academic performance include a mentorship program between older and younger brothers. We try to instill an academic drive with our new members, and the results continue to show throughout all four years of college. As much as TEP strives to collectively improve its academic standings, it is the efforts of our individual brothers that allow us to excel.

# University of Georgia Nu Chapter Continued...

Important to all of us brothers are the ideas of Friendship, Chivalry, and Service. We consistently strive to use our resources to help those who need assistance. Working with our friends at Sigma Delta Tau, we raised over \$2,500 from a joint alumni tailgate in November. All of that money went to *Will to Live*, a nonprofit organization aimed at increasing awareness about teenage suicide. We have many more philanthropic and service related programs planned for this upcoming year as well.

With so much success this past year, it becomes a challenge to continue looking up. However, with the efforts of my executive board, and the drive of all of our members, I am certain that we will find ways to keep improving. We will continue to expand our social calendar, strive to be the best in academics, and continue bettering our community. Go Dawgs!!



# University of Rhode Island Tau Omega Chapter

This semester was a great one for the Tau Omega Chapter. Toward the beginning of the year, we had some difficulties putting our chapter out there regarding our philanthropy due to the variants of Covid. However, we quickly turned that around during Philanthropy Week. The Tau Omega chapter raised a little over \$14,000. The rest of the semester, we had fundraisers on campus and teamed up with different sororities to raise money for our military students.

For our fall rush, we welcomed twelve (12) new members to our brotherhood. Cole Monisera, our former rush chair, put in a lot of hard work to make everything run smoothly for these guys. Every single one of our new members has extreme potential to do big things for our fraternity.

## University of Rhode Island Tau Omega Chapter

I am excited to announce that the Tau Omega chapter took a huge step forward since last year. Tau Omega Colony was deemed "Tau Omega Chapter" on December 9, 2021. Our former president, Adam Weiner put an incredible amount of effort into making this dream become reality for our brothers. A chartering ceremony took place at the University of Rhode Island Welcome Center where we received our chartering plaque





### Pennsylvania State University Epsilon Phi Colony

Epsilon Phi at Penn State has embarked on an exciting spring semester. Our annual childhood cancer fundraiser, THON, is approaching in the coming months and will result in millions raised for childhood cancer patients overall. Our fraternity welcomed a new partnership with a sorority as well as with Garrett, a young cancer survivor and his family, in which we look forward to future events and opportunities to strengthen our community. We look forward to rush this spring and hope to welcome a good, strong group of brothers into our brotherhood, as well as hosting events such as parents weekend and alumni weekends.



## University of Albany Alpha Sigma Colony

After a monumental Spring 2021 semester for the Alpha Sigma Colony of Tau Epsilon Phi, the fraternity decided that they would take a step back and not take new class in the Fall and focus on the organization. During the Fall semester, the fraternity as a whole completed 348 hours of community service, participating in food drives, clothing drives, and local community cleanups. We held 3 in-person programs for students to attend which included study tips, mental health awareness, and a program on our philanthropy "Military Kids". We held elections for our new executive board and are thrilled about this upcoming semester. The spring semester is limitless for our chapter, we look forward to taking a new class and intend on it being our biggest one yet!



2021 Endowment Campaign

Winter, 2022

Dear Brothers,

*The TEP Foundation, Inc.* would like to thank everyone for their generous contribution to the **2021 Endowment Campaign**. This campaign with various levels of donation was revitalized last summer as an homage to our original campaign first launched back in 1985 (Alfred Versacci, Consul, 1981-1983, & President of TEP Foundation, 1983-1989). Through the outstanding efforts, contributions, and support of our Brotherhood we have raised over <u>\$5,000!</u> The single largest amount for any fundraising campaign in Tau Epsilon Phi over the past decade. Your contribution to the *Endowment Campaign* accelerates our mission statement by providing critical Award, Scholarship, and Education to our **Goal: \$6000** valued undergraduate membership.

·····	······	90%	\$5200
President's Club	Life Sponsor's Club	80%	
(\$1,000 or More)	(\$500 or more)	70%	
		60%	
		50%	
Hearts & Links Club	Helmet & Swords Club	40%	
(\$300 or more)	(\$150 or more)	30%	
		20%	
Plume Club	Lily of the Valley Club	10%	l
(\$50 or more)	(Other)		

Those who donated were sent a digital copy of Sidney Suntag's (*Historian Emeritus*) — <u>The History of Tau Epsilon Phi: 75 Years of Friendship</u>. This recently made available publication is a compilation of events, dates, photos, and the names of the men who made it all possible while capturing the history of Tau Epsilon Phi for posterity. The last time this historical book was circulated was back in 1992... Thirty years ago!

A huge thank you to all Brothers who participated! [Page 2.]

\*\*Special appreciation to Brother Ralph Behmorias (USF, '83) for donating his copy of the book for digitization.

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#### THE TEP FOUNDATION, Inc.

#### The TEP Foundation Donor Recognition (2021)

Alfred C. Versacci, Epsilon Mu, Hunter College Andrew Sudbury, Xi, Massachusetts Institute of Technology Andrew B. Lewis, Psi, University of Illinois Jeff Silverbush, Epsilon Mu, Hunter College Mark C. Thomches, Epsilon Theta, Queens College Jason M. Berler, Alpha Tau, Rowan University Fred A. Levine, Delta, Cornell University Eli Gilbert, Epsilon Theta, Queens College Mark Tenanbaum, Epsilon Kappa, Tulane University Gabe Goldberg, Epsilon Omega, Polytechnic Institute of New York Gene Benator, Nu, University of Georgia David Cohen, Omega, U.N.C-Chapel Hill Leo M. Gordon, Omega, U.N.C-Chapel Hill Richard M. Frome, Epsilon-Gamma, N.Y.U Heights Steve Rudnick, Epsilon Mu, Hunter College Douglas Thornton, Tau Zeta, University of Maine Marc Tolman, Epsilon Theta, Queens College Mark Haft, Epsilon Eta, Drexel University Charles Cumello, Epsilon Mu, Hunter College John Lindsay, Sigma Epsilon, Rutgers Camden Frederick McKinnon, Epsilon Mu, Hunter College Edward Lewis, Tau Gamma, University of Southern California David Shulman, Epsilon Psi, American International College Brian Resnevic, Tau Omega, University of Rhode Island Robert L. Morrison, Psi, Illinois University Murray Hankin, Tau Beta, University of Maryland

\*Jonathan Gordon, Friend, Zeta Beta Tau





Excerpts from the "History of The History of Tau Epsilon Phi: 75 Years of Friendship"

#### THE TEP FOUNDATION, Inc.

The TEP Foundation, Inc. our 93 year-old charitable arm of Tau Epsilon Phi Fraternity remains driven to commemorate the history of

> our fraternity. In doing so we have distributed many digital copies to our donors over the past year. The TEP Foundation plans to redistribute this historical book as a hard copy in the near future. We are looking to raise funds in order to

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make that happen. The reprinting will then be made available to all supporters, graduating seniors, and for purchase as sentimental value. Please be on the lookout for efforts toward this endeavor.

Fun Fact: Sidney Suntag (Secretary Emeritus) took five (5) years to compile all the material in *The History of Tau Epsilon Phi*. The narrations within the book are stories, documents, and first hand accounts he collected through his years involved and traveling starting in 1931.

The original book retailed for \$31.95 in 1989!



Winter Plume, 1989



The future is bright for The TEP Foundation, Inc.! If you would like to make a tax-deductible donation please follow the information below.

#### HOW TO DONATE TO TEP FOUNDATION

Please visit our PayPal: Paypal.me/thetepfoundation

-or-

Please make your contribution payable to The TEP Foundation, Inc.; You can mail checks to: Jason Berler, President The TEP Foundation, Inc. 770 Anderson Ave, Cliffside Park NJ 07010.

Please add us on social media to stay updated on the latest news from The TEP Foundation, Inc.!

Facebook: <u>www.facebook.com/thetepfoundation</u> Instagram: www.instagram.com/thetepfoundation Youtube: <u>www.youtube.com/thetepfoundation</u>

Fraternally. braull Bul -

Jason M. Berler President The TEP Foundation, Inc.





If you are interested in becoming a trustee, of the TEP Foundation, Inc. Please send an email to president@thetepfoundation.org

#### **Chapter Eternal**

#### 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 recently implemented 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!

#### **Chapter Eternal Brothers**

Chancellor William Gottheld, University at Buffalo, Phi Upsilon, "LLWG" Brother Peter Garcia, Rutgers University-Camden, Sigma Epsilon Brother Roger Wentworth, University of Maine, Tau Zeta Brother Michael Murphy, Queens College, Epsilon Theta Brother Harvey Warren Steen, Cornell University, Delta Brother Theodore Irwin, University of Vermont, Kappa Brother George Glomb, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Epsilon Iota Brother Mark Shooman, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Epsilon Iota Brother Eric Bulmer, University of Rhode Island, Tau Omega Brother Daniel H. Wilt, Drexel University, Epsilon Eta Brother Christopher McKeon, Bryant College, Sigma Lambda Brother Robert Levy, Marshall University, Tau Phi Brother Howard Isreal, Tulane University, Epsilon Kappa Brother Edward Fowler, Rutgers University-Camden, Sigma Epsilon Brother Ryan Parece, Clarkson University, Lambda Phi Epsilon Brother Ben Knight, University of Rhode Island, Tau Omega

> Rest in Peace Brothers May your Memories be a Blessing

#### **Alumni Updates**



This past fall the newly forming Alumni Association of our Alpha Tau Chapter held their first in person event since the pandemic started. The chapter welcomed their alumni to the school's homecoming event where they grilled food, reminisced, and made new memories with the undergraduates. The alumni association is excited and motivated to reconnect with their fellow alumni and current undergraduates again soon.

#### Alumni Updates



Brother Goldman provided us this snap shot of the movie Night Moves showing actress Jennifer Warren repping Tau Epsilon Phi! Looks like we've been in the movie business longer than we thought!



Alumni of our Phi Psi chapter came back to support our expansion effort to the University of Delaware this past fall. Reconnecting with one another, our staff and some of the undergraduates interested in joining and leading our effort! A heartfelt thank you from our staff to

all of the alumni from our Phi Psi chapter that continue to show support through this hopeful return to campus!

### GreekTrack

Tau Epsilon Phi is excited to announce that we have recently partnered with GreekTrack to serve as our member management platform. During the month of February, account invites will be sent out to all members with whom we have an email address on file. If you receive this invite, we encourage you to active your account and update your contact information. If you don't receive an invitation email by February 15, 2022, feel free to sign up and create your own account. This is mostly likely because we don't have a valid email address for you. We will be monitoring the system and updating our records at the same time doing our best to minimize and remove duplicate accounts. If you have any trouble creating an account or accessing your account, please feel free to send an email to our Executive Director, Tim Smith at tsmith@tep.org.

You can access our GreekTrack system either by going directly to <u>portal.tep.org</u> or going to our website at <u>www.tep.org</u> and choosing member login.

Below is an image of what the login screen should look like:

in with Facebook G Sign in with Google	New here? Let's set up your account.
Login Email	Select your site Sign Up
Log In	
A Password	

# Tau Epsilon Phi Art



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# **Plume Advertising Program**

# Your AD Here

- Support to the undergraduates in the form of programming
- Improved communication across our entire network
- Increased exposure for your business, reaching over 8,000 brothers

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 at least 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

#### NATIONAL DIRECTORY

#### THE GRAND COUNCIL OF TAU EPSILON PHI

#### **Executive Committee:**

Mark Abramson, EK Consul

JR Benning, Σ, First Vice-Consul Joel Kanter, ΕΚ, Second Vice-Consul Matthew Tursi, ΣΑΣ, Vice-Consul for Undergrad Affairs Donald J. Anspauch, Jr., ΕΦ, Quaestor Mark Gardner, ΦΧ Tribune Kirill Reznik, ΒΔ Immediate Past-Consul

#### **Directors:**

Michael Auerbach, EI Kenneth Hurtado, ΦX Alan Prather, ΤΔ Marc Tolman, EΘ Charles G. Wolf, EN

#### THE TAU EPSILON PHI FOUNDATION

Jason M. Berler, AT – President Gene Benator, N – Vice President Jim Durbin, EK – Treasurer Mark Thomches, E $\Theta$  – Secretary Douglas Thornton, TZ – Member-at-Large Rick Bernstein, N – Trustee Gerry Denmark,  $\Phi\Lambda$  – Trustee Patrick Megaro,  $\Sigma A\Sigma$  – Trustee Al Versacci, EM – Trustee Jeff Zadoff, T $\Delta$  – Trustee

#### **CONSUL REGISTER**

Alfred C. Versacci, EM - 1981-1983 Albert "Bud" Schiff,  $\Omega$  - 1983-1985 Gerald A. Denmark,  $\Phi\Lambda$  - 1985-1989 Stuart L. Blumerg, TA - 1989-1991 Leo M. Gordon,  $\Omega$  - 1991-1993 David C. Steinberg, EH - 1993-1995 Scott Lakernick,  $\Sigma$ E - 2008

Lane B. Koplon, N - 2011-2016 Timothy A. Smith, EI - 2007-08, 2016-18 Kirill Reznik, BΔ - 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
- ΣE Rutgers University, Camden
- **ΛΦE** Clarkson University
- ΣAΣ Hofstra University
- ΩA Johnson and Wales University
- AT Rowan University
- ГТ Indiana University, Bloomington
- ΦY University of Buffalo, SUNY
- TΩ University of Rhode Island
- EΦ Pennsylvania State University COLONY
- A $\Sigma$  University at Albany, SUNY COLONY
- TA University of Florida COLONY

#### ALUMNI ASSOCIATIONS

- Δ Cornell University
- N University of Georgia
- Ξ Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- EΘ Queens College
- EI Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
- EΦ Penn State Alumni Association
- ΣE Rutgers University at Camden
- TAK Lehigh University
- **ΛΦΕ** Clarkson University
- ΦX City College of New York

#### NATIONAL STAFF

**Executive Director** 

Timothy Smith, EI

Associate Director of Chapter Services Nicholas Dondiego, AT

Associate Director of Expansion

Jacob Corter, AT

#### CONTACT INFO

Plume Submissions: plume@tep.org Mark Abramson, Consul: consul@tep.org Tim Smith, Executive Director: tsmith@tep.org Nicholas Dondiego, Chapters: nick@tep.org Jacob Corter, Expansion: jake@tep.org



# TEP Does